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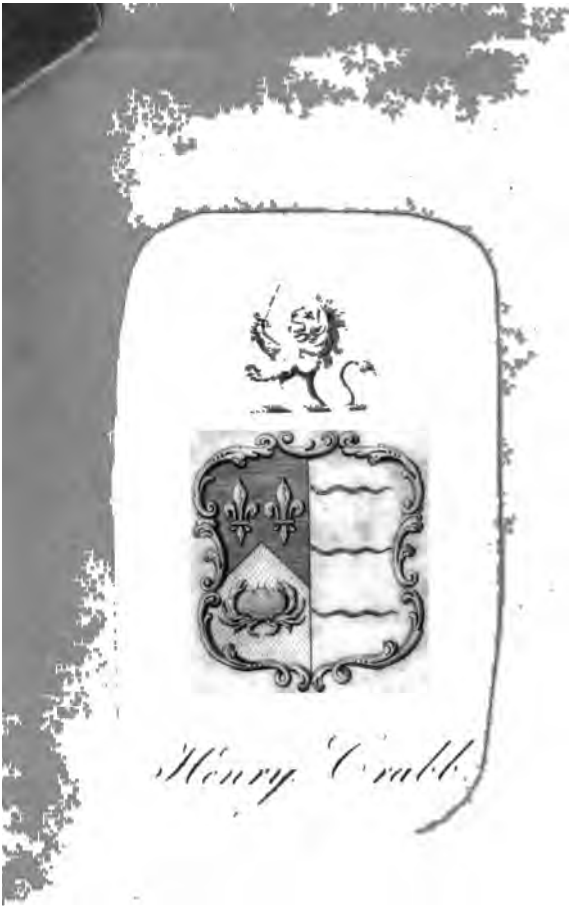
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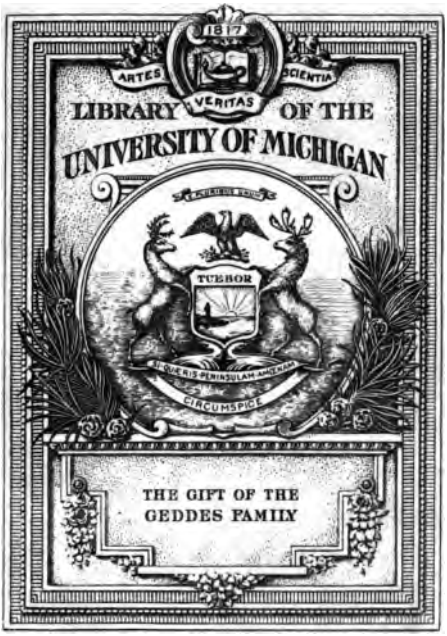

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THE

BRITISH ESSAYISTS;

WITH

PREFACES,

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL,

BY

ALEXANDER CHALMERS, F.S.A.

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THE TATLER.

N° 85. TUESDAY, OCT. 25, 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 24.

MY brother Tranquillus, who is a man of business, came to me this morning into my study, and after very many civil expressions in return for what good offices I hod done him, told me, "he desired to carry his wife, my sister, that very morning, to his own house." I readily told him, "I would wait upon him," without asking why he was so impatient to rob us of his good company. He went out of my chamber, and I thought seemed to have a little heaviness upon him, which gave me some disquiet. Soon after my sister came to me, with a very matron-like air, and most sedate satisfaction in her looks, which spoke her very much at ease; but the traces of her countenance seemed to discover that she had been lately in a passion, and that air of content to flow from a certain triumph upon some advantage obtained. She no sooner sat down by me, but I perceived she was one of those ladies who begin to be managers within the time of their being brides.—Without letting her speak, which I saw she had a mighty inclination to do, I said, "Here

has been your husband, who tells me he has a mind to go home this very morning, and I have consented to it."—"It is well," said she, "for you must know——" "Nay, Jenny," said I, "I beg your pardon, for it is you must know—You are to understand, that now is the time to fix or alienate your husband's heart for ever; and I fear you have been a little indiscreet in your expressions or behaviour towards him, even here in my house." "There has," says she, "been some words: but I will be judged by you if he was not in the wrong: nay, I need not be judged by any body, for he gave it up himself, and said not a word when he saw me grow passionate, but, 'Madam, you are perfectly in the right of it:' as you shall judge——" "Nay, Madam," said I, "I am judge already, and tell you, that you are perfectly in the wrong of it; for if it was a matter of importance, I know he has better sense than you; if a trifle, you know what I told you on your wedding-day, that you were to be above little provocations." She knows very well I can be sour upon occasion, therefore gave me leave to go on.

"Sister," said I, "I will not enter into the dispute between you, which I find his prudence put an end to before it came to extremity; but charge you to have a care of the first quarrel, as you tender your happiness; for then it is that the mind will reflect harshly upon every circumstance that has ever passed between you. If such an accident is ever to happen, which I hope never will, be sure to keep to the circumstance before you; make no allusions to what is passed, or conclusions referring to what is to come: do not show an hoard of matter for dissension in your breast; but, if it is necessary, lay before him the thing as you understand it, candidly, without being ashamed of acknowledging an error,

or proud of being in the right. If a young couple be not careful in this point, they will get into an habit of wrangling: and when to displease is thought of no consequence, to please is always of as little moment. There is a play, Jenny, I have formerly been at when I was a student: we got into a dark corner with a porringer of brandy, and threw raisins into it, then set it on fire. My chamber-fellow and I diverted ourselves with the sport of venturing our fingers for the raisins; and the wantonness of the thing was to see each other look like a dæmon, as we burnt ourselves, and snatched out the fruit. This fantastical mirth was called Snap-Dragon. You may go into many a family, where you see the man and wife at this sport; every word at their table alludes to some passage between themselves; and you see by the paleness and emotion in their countenances, that it is for your sake, and not their own, that they forbear playing out the whole game in burning each other's fingers. In this case, the whole purpose of life is inverted, and the ambition turns upon a certain contention, who shall contradict best, and not upon an inclination to excel in kindness and good offices. Therefore, dear Jenny, remember me, and avoid Snap-Dragon."

"I thank you, brother," said she, "but you do not know how he loves me; I find I can do any thing with him."—"If you *can so*, why should you desire to do any thing but please him? but I have a word or two more before you go out of the room; for I see you do not like the subject I am upon: let nothing provoke you to fall upon an imperfection he cannot help; for, if he has a resenting spirit, he will think your aversion as immoveable as the imperfection with which you upbraid him. But, above all, dear Jenny, be careful of one thing, and you will be something more than woman; that is,

a levity you are almost all guilty of, which is, to take a pleasure in your power to give pain. It is even in a mistress an argument of meanness of spirit, but in a wife it is injustice and ingratitude. When a sensible man once observes this in a woman, he must have a very great, or very little spirit, to overlook it. A woman ought, therefore, to consider very often, how few men there are who will regard a meditated offence as a weakness of temper."

I was going on in my confabulation, when Tranquillus entered. She cast all her eyes upon him with much shame and confusion, mixed with great complacency and love, and went up to him. He took her in his arms, and looked so many soft things at one glance, that I could see he was glad I had been talking to her, sorry she had been troubled, and angry at himself that he could not disguise the concern he was in an hour before. After which he says to me, with an air aukward enough, but methought not unbecoming, "I have altered my mind, brother; we will live upon you a day or two longer." I replied, "That is what I have been persuading Jenny to ask of you, but she is resolved never to contradict your inclination, and refused me."

We were going on in that way which one hardly knows how to express; as when two people mean the same thing in a nice case, but come at it by talking as distantly from it as they can; when very opportunely came in upon us an honest inconsiderable fellow, Tim Dapper, a gentleman well known to us both. Tim is one of those who are very necessary, by being very inconsiderable. Tim dropped in at an incident, when we knew not how to fall into either a grave or a merry way. My sister took this occasion to make off, and Dapper gave us an

account of all the company he had been in to day, who was, and who was not at home, where he visited. This Tim is the head of a species: he is a little out of his element in this town; but he is a relation of Tranquillus, and his neighbour in the country, which is the true place of residence for this species. The habit of a Dapper, when he is at home, is a light broad cloth, with calamanco or red waistcoat and breeches; and it is remarkable, that their wigs seldom hide the collar of their coats. They have always a peculiar spring in their arms, a wriggle in their bodies, and a trip in their gait. All which motions they express at once in their drinking, bowing, or saluting ladies; for a distant imitation of a forward fop, and a resolution to overtop him in his way, are the distinguishing marks of a Dapper. These under-characters of men, are parts of the sociable world by no means to be neglected: they are like pegs in a building; they make no figure in it, but hold the structure together, and are as absolutely necessary as the pillars and columns. I am sure we found it so this morning; for Tranquillus and I should, perhaps, have looked cold at each other the whole day, but Dapper fell in with his brisk way, shook us both by the hand, rallied the bride, mistook the acceptance he met with amongst us for extraordinary perfection in himself, and heartily pleased, and was pleased all the while he stayed. His company left us all in good humour, and we were not such fools as to let it sink, before we confirmed it by great cheerfulness and openness in our carriage the whole evening.

White's Chocolate-house, October 24.

I have been this evening to visit a lady who is a relation of the enamoured Cynthio, and there heard the melancholy news of his death. I was in hopes,

that fox-hunting and October would have recovered him from his unhappy passion. He went into the country with a design to leave behind him all thoughts of Clarissa; but he found that place only more convenient to think of her without interruption. The country gentlemen were very much puzzled upon his case, and never finding him merry or loud in their company took him for a Roman Catholic, and immediately upon his death seized his French valet-de-chambre for a priest; and it is generally thought in the country, it will go hard with him next session. Poor Cynthio never held up his head after having received a letter of Clarissa's marriage. The lady who gave me this account, being far gone in poetry and romance, told me, "if I would give her an epitaph, she would take care to have it placed on his tomb; which she herself had devised in the following manner. It is to be made of black marble, and every corner to be crowned with weeping Cupids. Their quivers are to be hung up upon two tall cypress-trees, which are to grow on each side on the monument, and their arrows to be laid in a great heap, after the manner of a funeral pile, on which is to lie the body of the deceased. On the top of each cypress is to stand the figure of a moaning turtle-dove. On the uppermost part of the monument, the Goddess, to whom these birds are sacred, is to sit in a dejected posture, as weeping for the death of her votary." I need not tell you this lady's head is a little turned: however, to be rid of importunities, I promised her an epitaph, and told her I would take for my pattern that of Don Alonzo, who was no less famous in his age than Cynthio is in ours.

THE EPITAPH.

Here lies Don Alonzo,
Slain by a wound receiv'd under

his left pap;
the orifice of which was so
small, no surgeon could
discover it.
Reader;
If thou wouldst avoid so strange
a death,
look not upon Lucinda's eyes.

N° 86. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1709.

From my own Apartment, October 25.

When I came home last night, my servant delivered me the following letter:

"Sir, *October 24.*

"I have orders from Sir Harry Quicksett, of Staffordshire, baronet, to acquaint you, that his honour Sir Harry himself, Sir Giles Wheelbarrow, knight, Thomas Rentfree, esquire, justice of the quorum, Andrew Windmill, esquire, and Mr. Nicholas Doubt, of the Inner Temple, Sir Harry's grandson, will wait upon you at the hour of nine to-morrow morning, being Tuesday the twenty-fifth of October, upon business which Sir Harry will impart to you by word of mouth. I thought it proper to acquaint you before-hand so many persons of quality came, that you might not be surprised therewith. Which concludes, though by many years absence since I saw you at Stafford, unknown, Sir, your most humble servant,

John Thrifty."

I received this message with less surprise than I believe Mr. Thrifty imagined; for I knew the good company too well to feel any palpitations at their approach: but I was in very great concern how I should adjust the ceremonial; and demean myself to all these great men, who perhaps had not seen any thing above themselves for these twenty years last past. I am sure that is the case of Sir Harry. Besides which I was sensible that there was a great point in adjusting my behaviour to the simple squire, so as to give him satisfaction, and not disoblige the justice of the quorum.

The hour of nine was come this morning, and I had no sooner set chairs, by the steward's letter, and fixed my tea-equipage, but I heard a knock at my door, which was opened, but no one entered; after which followed a long silence, which was broke at last by, "Sir, I beg your pardon; I think I know better:" and another voice, "Nay, good Sir Giles—" I looked out from my window, and saw the good company all with their hats off, and arms spread, offering the door to each other. After many offers they entered with much solemnity, in the order Mr. Thrifty was so kind as to name them to me. But they are now got to my chamber-door, and I saw my old friend Sir Harry enter. I met him with all the respect due to so reverend a vegetable; for you are to know, that is my sense of a person who remains idle in the same place for half a century. I got him with great success into his chair by the fire, without throwing down any of my cups. The knight-bachelor told me, "he had a great respect for my whole family, and would, with my leave, place himself next to Sir Harry, at whose right hand he had sat at every quarter sessions these thirty years, unless he was sick." The Steward in the rear whispered the young Templar, "That is

true to my knowledge." I had the misfortune, as they stood cheek by jole, to desire the squire to sit down before the justice of the quorum, to the no small satisfaction of the former, and resentment of the latter. But I saw my error too late, and got them as soon as I could into their seats. "Well," said I, "gentlemen, after I have told you how glad I am of this great honour, I am to desire you to drink a dish of tea." They answered one and all, "that they never drank tea in a morning!"—"Not in a morning!" said I, staring round me. Upon which the pert jackanapes, Nic Doubt, tipped me the wink, and put out his tongue at his grandfather. Here followed a profound silence, when the steward in his boots and whip proposed, "that we should adjourn to some public house, where every body might call for what they pleased, and enter upon the business." We all stood up in an instant, and Sir Harry filed off from the left, very discreetly, countermarching behind the chairs towards the door. After him, Sir Giles in the same manner. The simple squire made a sudden start to follow; but the justice of the quorum whipped between upon the stand of the stairs. A maid, going up with coals, made us halt, and put us into such confusion, that we stood all in a heap, without any visible possibility of recovering our order; for the young jackanapes seemed to make a jest of this matter, and had so contrived, by pressing amongst us, under pretence of making way, that his grandfather was got into the middle, and he knew nobody was of quality to stir a step, until Sir Harry moved first. We were fixed in this perplexity for some time, until we heard a very loud noise in the street; and Sir Harry asking what it was, I, to make them move, said, "it was a fire." Upon this, all ran down as fast as they could, without order or cere-

mony, until we got into the street, where we d
in very good order, and filed off down Shee
the impertinent Templar driving us before hin
a string, and pointing to his acquaintance who
by.

I must confess, I love to use people accor
their own sense of good breeding, and th
whipped in between the justice and the
squire. He could not properly take this ill;
overheard him whisper the steward, "t
thought it hard, that a common conjuror
take place of him, though an elder squire
this order we marched down Sheer-lane,
upper end of which I lodge. When we c
Temple-bar, Sir Harry and Sir Giles got ove
a run of the coaches kept the rest of us on th
of the street; however, we all at last lande
drew up in very good order before Ben To
shop, who favoured our rallying with great
nity; from whence we proceeded again, u
came to Dick's coffee-house†, where I desig
carry them. Here we were at our old dif
and took up the street upon the same cere
We proceeded through the entry, and were
cessarily kept in order by the situation, that w
now got into the coffee-house itself, where, a
as we arrived, we repeated our civilities t
other; after which, we marched up to th
table, which has an ascent to it inclosed
middle of the room. The whole house was a
at this entry, made up of persons of so muc
and rusticity. Sir Harry called for a mug
and Dyer's Letter. The boy brought the al
instant; but said, "they did not take in the I

* The celebrated bookseller, in Fleet-street.
† Which still goes by that name.

"No!" says Sir Harry, "then take back your mug; we are like indeed to have good liquor at this house!" Here the Templar tipped me a second wink, and, if I had not looked very grave upon him, I found he was disposed to be very familiar with me. In short, I observed, after a long pause, that the gentlemen did not care to enter upon business until after their morning-draught, for which reason I called for a bottle of mum; and finding that had no effect upon them, I ordered a second, and a third, after which Sir Harry reached over to me, and told me in a low voice, "that the place was too public for business; but he would call upon me again to-morrow morning at my own lodgings, and bring some more friends with him."

Will's Coffee-house, October 26.

Though this place is frequented by a more mixed company than it used to be formerly; yet you meet very often some whom one cannot leave without being the better for their conversation. A gentleman this evening, in a dictating manner, talked, I thought, very pleasingly in praise of modesty, in the midst of ten or twelve libertines upon whom it seemed to have had a good effect. He represented it as the certain indication of a great and noble spirit. "Modesty," said he, "is the virtue which makes men prefer the public to their private interest, the guide of every honest undertaking, and the great guardian of innocence. It makes men amiable to their friends, and respected by their very enemies. In all places, and on all occasions, it attracts benevolence, and demands approbation."

One might give instances, out of antiquity, of the irresistible force of this quality in great minds; Cicereius, and Cneius Scipio, the son of the great Africanus, were competitors for the office of

prætor. The crowd followed Cicereius, and lef Scipio unattended. Cicereius saw this with muc concern; and desiring an audience of the people he descended from the place where the candidate were to sit in the eye of the multitude; pleade for his adversary; and, with an ingenious mo desty, which it is impossible to feign, represent to them, "how much it was to their dishonour that a virtuous son of Africanus should not be pre ferred to him, or any other man whatsoever. Thi immediately gained the election for Scipio; but al the compliments and congratulations upon it wer made to Cicereius. It is easier in this case to say who had the office, than the honour. There is n occurrence in life where this quality is not more or namental than any other. After the battle of Phar salia, Pompey marching towards Larissus, the whol people of that place came out in procession to d him honour. He thanked the magistrates for thei respect to him; but desired them "to perform thes ceremonies to the conqueror." This gallant sub mission to his fortune, and disdain of making an appearance but like Pompey, was owing to his mo desty, which would not permit him to be so disin genuous, as to give himself the air of prosperity when he was in the contrary condition.

This I say of modesty, as it is the virtue whic preserves a decorum in the general course of ou life; but, considering it also as it regards our mer bodies, it is the certain character of a great mind It is memorable of the mighty Cæsar, than when h was murdered in the Capitol, at the very moment i which he expired he gathered his robe about him that he might fall in a decent posture. In thi manner, says my author, he went off, not like a man that departed out of life, but a deity that re turned to his abode.

N° 87. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1709.

Will's Coffee-house, October 28.

THERE is nothing which I contemplate with greater pleasure than the dignity of human nature, which often shows itself in all conditions of life. For, notwithstanding the degeneracy and meanness that is crept into it, there are a thousand occasions in which it breaks through its original corruption, and shows what it once was, and what it will be hereafter. I consider the soul of man as the ruin of a glorious pile of buildings; where, amidst great heaps of rubbish, you meet with noble fragments of sculpture, broken pillars and obelisks, and a magnificence in confusion. Virtue and wisdom are continually employed in clearing the ruins, removing these disorderly heaps, recovering the noble pieces that lie buried under them, and adjusting them as well as possible according to their ancient symmetry and beauty. A happy education, conversation with the finest spirits, looking abroad into the works of nature, and observations upon mankind, are the great assistances to this necessary and glorious work. But even among those who have never had the happiness of any of these advantages, there are sometimes such exertions of the greatness that is natural to the mind of man, as show capacities and abilities, which only want these accidental helps to fetch them out, and show them in a proper light. A plebeian soul is still the ruin of this glorious edifice, though incumbered with all its rubbish. This reflexion rose in me from a letter which my servant dropped as he was dressing

me, and which he told me was communicated t him, as he is an acquaintance of some of the person mentioned in it. The epistle is from one serjean Hall of the foot-guards. It is directed, "To serjean Cabe, in the Coldstream regiment of foot-guards, a the Red-lettice, in the Butcher-row, near Temple bar."

I was so pleased with several touches in it, that could not forbear showing it to a cluster of critics who, instead of considering it in the light I hav done, examined it by the rules of epistolary writing For as these gentlemen are seldom men of any grea genius, they work altogether by mechanical rules and are able to discover no beauties that are no pointed out by Bouhours and Rapin. The letter i as follows:

"From the camp before Mons, Sept. 2(

"COMRADE,

"I received yours, and am glad yourself and y wife are in good health, with all the rest of my friends. Our battalion suffered more than I coul wish in the action. But who can withstand fate Poor Richard Stevenson had his fate with a grea many more. He was killed dead before we entere the trenches. We had above two hundred of ou battalion killed and wounded. We lost ten serjeants six are as followeth: Jennings, Castles, Roach Sherring, Meyrick, and my son Smith. The res are not your acquaintance. I have received a ver bad shot in my head myself, but am in hopes, an please God, I shall recover. I continue in the field and lie at my colonel's quarters. Arthur is very well but I can give you no account of Elms; he was i the hospital before I came into the field. I will no pretend to give you an account of the battle, know ing you have a better in the prints. Pray, give m

service to Mrs. Cook and her daughter, to Mr. Stoffet and his wife, and to Mr. Lyver, and Thomas Hogsdon, and to Mr. Ragdell, and to all my friends and acquaintance in general who do ask after me. My love to Mrs. Stevenson. I am sorry for the sending such ill news. Her husband was gathering a little money together to send to his wife, and put it into my hands. I have seven shillings and threepence, which I shall take care to send her. Wishing your wife a safe delivery, and both of you all happiness, rest

"Your assured friend, and comrade,

"JOHN HALL.

"We had but an indifferent breakfast; but the Mounseers never had such a dinner in all their lives.

"My kind love to my comrade Hinton, and Mrs. Morgan, and to John Brown and his wife. I sent two shillings, and Stevenson six-pence, to drink with you at Mr. Cook's; but I have heard nothing from him. It was by Mr. Edgar.

"Corporal Hartwell desires to be remembered to you, and desires you to enquire of Edgar, what is become of his wife Pegg; and when you write, to send word in your letter what trade she drives.

"We have here very bad weather, which I doubt will be an hindrance to the siege; but I am in hopes we shall be masters of the town in a little time, and then, I believe, we shall go to garrison."

I saw the critics prepared to nibble at my letter; therefore examined it myself, partly in their way, and partly my own. This is, said I, truly a letter, and an honest representation of that cheerful heart which accompanies the poor soldier in his warfare. Is not there in this all the topic of submitting to our destiny as well discussed as if a greater man had been placed, like Brutus, in his tent at midnight, reflect-

ing on all the occurrences of past life, and sayin
things on Being itself? What serjeant Hall l
of the matter is, that he wishes there had not
so many killed; and he had himself a very bac
in the head, and should recover if it pleased
But, be that as it will, he takes care, like a n
honour, as he certainly is, to let the widow St
son know, that he had seven and three-pence fo
and that if he lives, he is sure he shall go int
rison at last. I doubt not but all the good com
at the Red-lettice drank his health with as muc
esteem as we do of any of our friends. All that
concerned for is, that Mrs. Peggy Hartwell m
offended at showing this letter, because her co
in Mr. Hartwell's absence is a little inquired
But I could not sink that circumstance, becaus
critics would have lost one of the parts which I
not but you have much to say upon, whether t
miliar way is well hit in this style or not? A
myself, I take a very particular satisfaction in s
any letter that is fit only for those to read wh
concerned in it, but especially on such a subjec

If we consider the heap of an army, utterly
all prospect of rising and preferment, as they ce
ly are, and such great things executed by the
is hard to account for the motive of their galla
But to me, who was a cadet at the battle of
stream in Scotland, when Monk charged at the
of the regiment, now called Coldstream, fro
victory of that day; I remember it as well as
were yesterday, I stood on the left of old West,
believe is now at Chelsea; I say, to me, who
very well this part of mankind, I take the gall
of private soldiers to proceed from the same, i
from a nobler impulse than that of gentlemer
officers. They have the same taste of being ac
able to their friends, and go through the diffic

of that profession by the same irresistible charm of fellowship, and the communication of joys and sorrows, which quickens the relish of pleasure, and abates the anguish of pain. Add to this, that they have the same regard to fame, though they do not expect so great a share as men above them hope for; but I will engage serjeant Hall would die ten thousand deaths, rather than a word should be spoken at the Red-lettice, or any part of the Butcher-row, in prejudice to his courage or honesty. If you will have my opinion then of the serjeant's letter, I pronounce the style to be mixed, but truly epistolary; the sentiment relating to his own wound is in the sublime; the postscript of Pegg Hartwell, in the gay; and the whole the picture of the bravest sort of men, that is to say, a man of great courage and small hopes.

From my own Apartment, October 28.

When I came home this evening, I found, after many attempts to vary my thoughts, that my head still ran upon the subject of the discourse to-night at Will's. I fell, therefore, into the amusement of proportioning the glory of a battle among the whole army, and dividing it into shares, according to the method of the million lottery. In this bank of fame, by an exact calculation, and the rules of political arithmetic, I have allotted ten hundred thousand shares; five hundred thousand of which is the due of the general, two hundred thousand I assign to the general officers, and two hundred thousand more to all the commissioned officers, from colonels to ensigns; the remaining hundred thousand must be distributed among the non-commissioned officers, and private men: according to which computation, I find serjeant Hall is to have one share and a fraction of two-fifths. When I was a boy at Oxford, there was among the antiquities near the theatre a great

stone, on which were engraven the names of all who fell in the battle of Marathon. The generous and knowing people of Athens understood the force of the desire of glory, and would not let the meanest soldier perish in oblivion. Were the natural impulse of the British nation animated with such monuments, what man would be so mean, as not to hazard his life for his ten hundred thousandth part of the honour in such a day as that of Blenheim or Blaregnies?

N° 88. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1709.

White's Chocolate-house, October 31.

I HAVE lately received a letter from a friend in t country, wherein he acquaints me, "that two or three men of the town are got among them, and have brought down particular words and phrases, which were never before in those parts." He mentions in particular the words Gunner and Gunster, which, my correspondent observes, they make use of, when any thing has been related that is strange and surprizing; and, therefore, desires I would explain those terms, as I have many others, for the information of such as live at a distance from this town and court, which he calls the great mints of language. His letter is dated from York; and, if he tells me truth, a word in its ordinary circulation does not reach that city within the space of five years after it is first stamped. I cannot say how long these words have been current in town, but I shall now take care to send them down by the next post.

I must, in the first place, observe, that the words *Gunner* and *Gunster* are not to be used promiscuously; for a *Gunner*, properly speaking, is not a *Gunster*: nor is a *Gunster*, *vice versâ*, a *Gunner*. They both, indeed, are derived from the word *gun*, and so far they agree. But as a gun is remarkable for its destroying at a distance, or for the report it makes, which is apt to startle all its hearers, those who recount strange accidents and circumstances, which have no manner of foundation in truth, when they design to do mischief are comprehended under the appellation of *Gunners;* but when they endeavour only to surprise and entertain, they are distinguished by the name of *Gunsters*. *Gunners*, therefore, are the pest of society, but the *Gunsters* often the diversion. The *Gunner* is destructive, and hated; the *Gunster* innocent and laughed at. The first is prejudicial to others, the others only to himself.

This being premised, I must, in the next place, subdivide the *Gunner* into several branches: all, or the chief of which are, I think, as follows:

First, the Bombardier.
Secondly, the Miner.
Thirdly, the Squib.
Fourthly, the Serpent.

And, First, of the first. The *Bombardier* tosses his balls sometimes into the midst of a city, with a design to fill all around him with terror and combustion. He has been sometimes known to drop a bomb in a senate-house, and to scatter a panic over a nation. But his chief aim is at several eminent stations, which he looks upon as the fairest marks, and uses all his skill to do execution upon those who possess them. Every man so situated, let his merit be never so great, is sure to undergo a bombardment. It is further observed, that the only way to be out of danger from the bursting of a bomb, is to lie pros-

trate on the ground: a posture too abject for generous spirits.

Secondly, The *Miner*.

As the bombardier levels his mischief at nations and cities, the *Miner* busies himself in ruining and overturning private houses and particular persons. He often acts as a spy, in discovering the secret avenues and unguarded accesses of families, where, after he has made his proper discoveries and dispositions, he sets sudden fire to his train, that blows up families, scatters friends, separates lovers, disperses kindred, and shakes a whole neighbourhood.

It is to be noted, that several females are great proficients in this way of engineering. The marks by which they are to be known are, a wonderful solicitude for the reputation of their friends, and a more than ordinary concern for the good of their neighbours. There is also in them something so very like religion, as may deceive the vulgar; but if you look upon it more nearly, you see on it such a cast of censoriousness, as discovers it to be nothing but hypocrisy. Cleomilla is a great instance of a female *Miner*: but, as my design is to expose only the incorrigible, let her be silent for the future, and I shall be so too.

Thirdly, The *Squib*.

The Squibs are those, who in the common phrase of the word are called libellers, lampooners, and pamphleteers. Their fire-works are made up in paper; and it is observed, that they mix abundance of charcoal in their powder, that they may be sure to blacken where they cannot singe. These are observed to give a consternation and disturbance only to weak minds; which, according to the proverb, are always "more afraid than hurt."

Fourthly, *Serpents*.

The Serpents are a petty kind of Gunners, more pernicious than any of the rest. They make use of a sort of white powder, that goes off without any violent crack, but gives a gentle sound, much like that of a whisper; and is more destructive in all parts of life than any of the materials made use of by any of the fraternity.

Come we now to the *Gunsters.*

This race of engineers deals altogether in wind-guns, which, by recoiling, often knock down those who discharge them, without hurting any body else; and, according to the various compressions of the air, make such strange squeaks, cracks, pops, and bounces, as it is impossible to hear without laughing. It is observable, however, that there is a disposition in a *Gunster* to become a *Gunner:* and though their proper instruments are only loaden with wind, they often, out of wantonness, fire a bomb, or spring a mine, out of their natural inclination to engineering; by which means they do mischief when they do not design it, and have their bones broken when they do not deserve it.

This sort of engineers are the most unaccountable race of men in the world. Some of them have received above an hundred wounds, and yet have not a scar in their bodies; some have debauched multitudes of women, who have died maids. You may be with them from morning until night, and the next day they shall tell you a thousand adventures that happened when you were with them, which you know nothing of. They have a quality of having been present at every thing they hear related; and never heard a man commended, who was not their intimate acquaintance, if not their kinsman.

I hope these notes may serve as a rough draught for a new establishment of engineers, which I shall hereafter fill up with proper persons, according to

my own observations on their conduct, having alr
had one recommended to me for the general of m
tillery. But that, and all the other posts, I inte
keep open, until I can inform myself of the c
dates having resolved in this case to depend no
upon their friend's word, than I would upon their

From my own Apartment, October 31.

I was this morning awakened by a sudden s
of the house; and as soon as I had got a little
my consternation, I felt another, which was fo
ed by two or three repetitions of the same convu
I got up as fast as possible, girt on my rapier,
snatched up my hat, when my landlady came
me, and told me, "that the gentlewoman o
next house begged me to step thither, for t
lodger she had taken in was run mad; and she
sired my advice," as indeed every body in the v
lane does upon important occasions. I am not,
some artists, saucy because I can be beneficial,
went immediately. Our neighbour told us,
had the day before let her second floor to a very
teel youngish man, who told her, he kept ext
dinary good hours, and was generally at home
part of the morning and evening at study; but
this morning he had for an hour together made
extravagant noise which we then heard." I we
stairs with my hand upon the hilt of my rapier,
approached this new lodger's door. I looked
the key-hole, and there I saw a well-made man
with great attention on a book, and on a su
jump into the air so high, that his head almost tc
ed the cieling. He came down safe on his
foot, and again flew up, alighting on his left;
looked again at his book, and, holding out his
leg, put it into such a quivering motion, that I thc
he would have shaked it off. He used the left

the same manner, when on a sudden, to my great surprise, he stooped himself incredibly low, and turned gently on his toes. After this circular motion, he continued bent in that humble posture for some time, looking on his book. After this, he recovered himself with a sudden spring, and flew round the room in all the violence and disorder imaginable, until he made a full pause for want of breath. In this interim my woman asked "what I thought?" I whispered, "that I thought this learned person an enthusiast, who possibly had his first education in the Peripatetic way, which was a sect of philosophers, who always studied when walking." But, observing him much out of breath, I thought it the best time to master him if he were disordered, and knocked at his door. I was surprised to find him open it, and say with great civility and good mien, "that he hoped he had not disturbed us." I believed him in a lucid interval, and desired, "he would please to let me see his book." He did so, smiling. I could not make any thing of it, and, therefore, asked "in what language it was writ?" He said, "it was one he studied with great application; but it was his profession to teach it, and could not communicate his knowledge without a consideration." I answered, "that I hoped he would hereafter keep his thoughts to himself, for his meditation this morning had cost me three coffee-dishes, and a clean pipe." He seemed concerned at that, and told me "he was a dancing-master, and had been reading a dance or two before he went out, which had been written by one who taught at an academy in France*." He

* Thoinet Arbeau, a dancing-master at Paris, is here justly celebrated, as the real inventor of the art of writing dances in characters termed *Orchesography*, from the two Greek words, ὀρχησις, a dance, and γραφα, I write. The discovery was recent at the time of the first publication of this paper.

observed me at a stand, and went on to inform
" that now articulate motions, as well as sounds,
expressed by proper characters; and that the
nothing so common, as to communicate a dance
letter." I besought him hereafter to meditate
ground-room, for that otherwise it would be imp
ble for an artist of any other kind to live near h
and that I was sure several of his thoughts this m
ing would have shaken my spectacles off my
had I been myself at study.

I then took my leave of this virtuoso, and retu
to my chamber, meditating on the various occupa
of rational creatures.

N° 89. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1

Rura mihi placeant, riguique in vallibus amnes,
Flumina amem sylvasq.e inglorius———

VIRG. Georg. ii

" My next desire is, void of care and strife,
To lead a soft, secure, inglorious life:
A country cottage near a crystal flood,
A winding valley, and a lofty wood." DR

Grecian Coffee-house, November 2.

I HAVE received this short epistle from an unk
hand.

" SIR,

" I have no more to trouble you with, than to d
you would in your next help me to some answ
the inclosed concerning yourself. In the mean

I congratulate you upon the increase of your fame, which you see has extended itself beyond the bills of mortality."

"SIR,

"That the country is barren of news has been the excuse, time out of mind, for dropping a correspondence with our friends in London; as if it were impossible out of a coffee-house to write an agreeable letter. I am too ingenuous to endeavour at the covering of my negligence with so common an excuse. Doubtless, amongst friends, bred, as we have been, to the knowledge of books as well as men, a letter dated from a garden, a grotto, a fountain, a wood, a meadow, or the banks of a river, may be more entertaining than one from Tom's, Will's, White's, or Saint James's. I promise, therefore, to be frequent for the future in my rural dates to you. But for fear you should, from what I have said, be induced to believe I shun the commerce of men, I must inform you, that there is a fresh topic of discourse lately arisen amongst the ingenious in our part of the world, and is become the more fashionable for the ladies giving into it. This we owe to Isaac Bickerstaff, who is very much censured by some, and as much justified by others. Some criticise his style, his humour, and his matter; others admire the whole man. Some pretend, from the informations of their friends in town, to decypher the author; and others confess they are lost in their guesses. For my part, I must own myself a professed admirer of the paper, and desire you to send me a complete set, together with your thoughts of the squire and his lucubrations."

There is no pleasure like that of receiving praise from the praise-worthy; and I own it a very solid happiness, that these my lucubrations are approved

by a person of so fine a taste as the author of this letter, who is capable of enjoying the world in the simplicity of its natural beauties. This pastoral letter, if I may so call it, must be written by a man who carries his entertainment wherever he goes, and is undoubtedly one of those happy men who appear far otherwise to the vulgar. I dare say, he is not envied by the vicious, the vain, the frolic, and the loud; but is continually blessed with that strong and serious delight, which flows from a well-taught and liberal mind. With great respect to country sports, I may say, this gentleman could pass his time agreeably, if there were not a hare or a fox in his county. That calm and elegant satisfaction which the vulgar call melancholy is the true and proper delight of men of knowledge and virtue. What we take for diversion, which is a kind of forgetting ourselves, is but a mean way of entertainment, in comparison of that which is considering, knowing, and enjoying ourselves. The pleasures of ordinary people are in their passions; but the seat of this delight is in the reason and understanding. Such a frame of mind raises that sweet enthusiasm, which warms the imagination at the sight of every work of nature, and turns all round you into picture and landscape. I shall be ever proud of advices from this gentleman; for I profess writing news from the learned, as well as the busy world.

As for my labours, which he is pleased to inquire after, if they can but wear one impertinence out of human life, destroy a single vice, or give a morning's cheerfulness to an honest mind; in short, if the world can be but one virtue the better, or in any degree less vicious, or receive from them the smallest addition to their innocent diversions! I shall not think my pains, or indeed my life, to have been spent in vain.

Thus far as to my studies. It will be expected I should in the next place give some account of my life. I shall therefore, for the satisfaction of the present age, and the benefit of posterity, present the world with the following abridgement of it.

It is remarkable, that I was bred by hand, and eat nothing but milk until I was a twelve-month old; from which time, to the eighth year of my age, I was observed to delight in pudding and potatoes; and indeed I retain a benevolence for that sort of food to this day. I do not remember that I distinguished myself in any thing at those years, but by my great skill at taw, for which I was so barbarously used, that it has ever since given me an aversion to gaming. In my twelfth year, I suffered very much for two or three false concords. At fifteen I was sent to the university, and stayed there for some time; but a drum passing by, being a lover of music, I inlisted myself for a soldier. As years came on, I began to examine things, and grew discontented at the times. This made me quit the sword, and take to the study of the occult sciences, in which I was so wrapped up, that Oliver Cromwell had been buried, and taken up again, five years before I heard he was dead. This gave me first the reputation of a conjurer, which has been of great disadvantage to me ever since, and kept me out of all public employments. The greater part of my later years has been divided between Dick's coffee-house, the Trumpet in Sheer-lane, and my own lodgings.

From my own Apartment, November 2.

The evil of unseasonable visits has been complained of to me with much vehemence by persons of both sexes; and I am desired to consider this very important circumstance, that men may know how to regulate their conduct in an affair which concerns

no less than life itself. For to a rational creat it is almost the same cruelty to attack his life, robbing him of so many moments of his time, o many drops of his blood. The author of the foll ing letter has a just delicacy in this point, and h put it into a very good light:

" MR. BICKERSTAFF, *October*

" I am very much afflicted with the gravel, wh makes me sick and peevish. I desire to know of if it be reasonable that any of my acquainta should take advantage over me at this time, afflict me with long visits, because they are idle, I am confined. Pray, Sir, reform the town in matter. Men never consider whether the sick p son be disposed for company, but make their v to humour themselves. You may talk upon topic, so as to oblige all persons afflicted with cl nical distempers, among which I reckon visits. not think me a sour man, for I love conversa and my friends; but I think one's most intin friend may be too familiar, and that there are s things as unseasonable wit, and painful mirth."

It is with some so hard a thing to employ t time, that it is a great good fortune when they h a friend indisposed, that they may be punctua perplexing him, when he is recovered enough tc in that state which cannot be called sickness health; when he is too well to deny company, too ill to receive them. It is no uncommon case, man is of any figure or power in the world, to congratulated into a relapse.

Will's Coffee-house, November 2.

I was very well pleased this evening, to he gentleman express a very becoming indigna against a practice, which I myself have been v

much offended at. "There is nothing," said he, "more ridiculous, than for an actor to insert words of his own in the part he is to act, so that it is impossible to see the poet for the player. You will have Penkethman and Bullock helping out Beaumont and Fletcher. It puts me in mind," continued he, "of a collection of antique statues which I once saw in a gentleman's possession, who employed a neighbouring stone-cutter to add noses, ears, arms, or legs, to the maimed works of Phidias or Praxiteles. You may be sure, this addition disfigured the statues much more than time had. I remember Venus, that, by the nose he had given her, looked like mother Shipton; and a Mercury, with a pair of legs that seemed very much swelled with the dropsy."

I thought the gentleman's observation very proper, and he told me I had improved his thought, in mentioning on this occasion those wise commentators who had filled up the hemistichs of Virgil*; particularly that notable poet, who, to make the Æneid more perfect, carried on the story of Lavinia's wedding. If the proper officer will not condescend to take notice of these absurdities, I shall myself, as a censor of the people, animadvert upon such proceedings.

* A gentleman of distinction in Aquitain, called by the writer on whose authority this note is given, Joannes de Peyrarede, filled up the hemistichs, or half verses, in the Æneid of Virgil.

N° 90. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 170

———— *Amoto quæramus seria ludo.*
HOR. I. Sat. i.

Let us now————
With graver air our serious theme pursue,
And yet preserve our moral full in view.
FRANCIS.

Will's Coffee-house, November 4.

THE passion of love happened to be the subject discourse between two or three of us at the table the poets this evening; and, among other ol vations, it was remarked, "that the same sentin on this passion had run through all languages nations." Memmius, who has a very good tas fell into a little sort of dissertation on this occasio "It is," said he, "remarkable, that no passion h been treated, by all who have touched upon it, wi the same bent of design but this. The poets, moralists, the painters, in all their descriptions, as gories, and pictures, have represented it as a s torment, a bitter sweet, a pleasing pain, or an agre able distress; and have only expressed the s thought in a different manner."

The joining of pleasure and pain together in su devices, seems to me the only pointed thought ever read which is natural; and it must have pr ceeded from its being the universal sense and e perience of mankind, that they have all spoken it in the same manner. I have, in my own rea ing, remarked an hundred and three epigrams, fil

odes, and ninety-one sentences, tending to this sole purpose.

It is certain, there is no other passion which does produce such contrary effects in so great a degree. But this may be said for love, that if you strike it out of the soul, life would be insipid, and our being but half animated. Human nature would sink into deadness and lethargy, if not quickened with some active principle; and as, for all others, whether ambition, envy, or avarice, which are apt to possess the mind in the absence of this passion, it must be allowed that they have greater pains, without the compensation of such exquisite pleasures as those we find in love. The great skill is to heighten the satisfactions, and deaden the sorrows of it; which has been the end of many of my labours, and shall continue to be so, for the service of the world in general, and in particular of the fair sex, who are always the best or the worst part of it. It is pity that a passion, which has in it a capacity of making life happy, should not be cultivated to the utmost advantage. Reason, prudence, and good-nature, rightly applied, can thoroughly accomplish this great end, provided they have always a real and constant love to work upon. But this subject I shall treat more at large in the history of my married sister, and in the mean time shall conclude my reflexion on the pains and pleasures which attend this passion, with one of the finest allegories which I think I have ever read. It is invented by the divine Plato, and, to show the opinion he himself had of it, ascribed by him to his admired Socrates, whom he represents as discoursing with his friends, and giving the history of love in the following manner.

"At the birth of Beauty," says he, "there was a great feast made, and many guests invited. Among the rest, was the god Plenty, who was the

son of the goddess Prudence, and inherited many of his mother's virtues. After a full entertainment, he retired into the garden of Jupiter, which was hung with a great variety of ambrosial fruits, and se to have been a very proper retreat for such a guest. In the mean time, an unhappy female called Poverty, having heard of this great feast, repaired to it, in hopes of finding relief. The first place she lights upon was Jupiter's garden, which generally stands open to people of all conditions. Poverty enters, and by chance finds the god Plenty asleep in it. She was immediately fired with his charms, laid herself down by his side, and managed matters so well, that she conceived a child by him. The world was very much in suspense upon the occasion, and could not imagine to themselves what would be the nature of an infant that was to have its original from two such parents. At the last, the child appears; and who should it be but Love? This inf grew up, and proved in all his behaviour, what he really was, a compound of opposite beings. As he is the son of Plenty, who was the offspring of Prudence, he is subtle, intriguing, full of stratagems and devices; as the son of Poverty, he is fawning, begging, serenading, delighting to lie at a threshold, or beneath a window. By the father, he is audacious, full of hopes, conscious of merit, and therefore quick of resentment. By the mother, he is doubtful, timorous, mean-spirited, fearful of offending, and abject in submissions. In the sa hour you may see him transported with raptures, talking of immortal pleasures, and appearing satisfied as a god; and immediately after, as the mor mother prevails in his composition, you behold h pining, languishing, despairing, dying."

I have been always wonderfully delighted with fables, allegories, and the like inventions, which

the politest and the best instructors of mankind have always made use of. They take off from the severity of instruction, and inforce it at the same time that they conceal it. The supposing Love to be conceived immediately after the birth of Beauty; the parentage of Plenty; and the inconsistency of this passion with its self so naturally derived to it, are great master-strokes in this fable; and if they fell into good hands, might furnish out a more pleasing canto than any in Spenser.

From my own Apartment, November 4.

I came home this evening in a very pensive mood; and, to divert me, took up a volume of Shakspeare, where I chanced to cast my eye upon a part in the tragedy of Richard the Third, which filled my mind with a very agreeable horror. It was the scene in which that bold but wicked prince is represented as sleeping in his tent, the night before the battle in which he fell. The poet takes that occasion to set before him, in a vision, a terrible assembly of apparitions, the ghosts of all those innocent persons whom he is said to have murdered. Prince Edward, Henry VI., the Duke of Clarence, Rivers, Gray, and Vaughan; Lord Hastings, the two young Princes, sons to Edward IV., his own wife, and the Duke of Buckingham, rise up in their blood before him, beginning their speeches with that dreadful salutation, "Let me sit heavy on thy soul to-morrow;" and concluding with that dismal sentence, "Despair and die." This inspires the tyrant with a dream of his past guilt, and of the approach-

vengeance. He anticipates the fatal day of

bosworth, fancies himself dismounted, weltering in his own blood; and in the agonies of despair, before he is thoroughly awake, starts up with the following speech:

" Give me another horse—Bind up my wounds!
Have mercy, Jesu—Soft! I did but dream.
Oh! coward conscience! how dost thou afflict me!
The lights burn blue! Is it not dead midnight?
Cold fearful drops stand on my trembling flesh:
What do I fear? myself!" &c.

A scene written with so great strength of imagination indisposed me from further reading, and threw me into a deep contemplation. I began to reflect upon the different ends of good and bad kings; and as this was the birth-day of our late renown monarch*; I could not forbear thinking on the departure of that excellent prince, who life was crowned with glory, and his death with peace. I let my mind go so far into this thought, as to imagine to myself what might have been the vision of his departing slumbers. He might have seen confederate kings applauding him in different languages; slaves that had been bound in fetters lifting up their hands, and blessing him; and the persecuted in their several forms of worship imploring comfort on his last moments. The reflection upon this excellent prince's mortality had been a very melancholy entertainment to me, had I not been relieved by the consideration of the glorious reign, which succeeds it.

We now see as great a virtue as ever was on the British throne, surrounded with all the beauty of success. Our nation may not only boast of a long series of great, regular, and well-laid designs, but also of triumphs and victories; while we have the happiness to see our sovereign exercise that true policy which tends to make a kingdom great and happy, and at the same time enjoy the good and glorious effect of it.

* King William III.

№ 91. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1709.

From my own Apartment, November 7.

I was very much surprised this evening with a visit from one of the top Toasts of the town, who came privately in a chair, and bolted into my room, while I was reading a chapter of Agrippa upon the occult sciences; but, as she entered with all the air and bloom that nature ever bestowed on woman, I threw down the conjuror and met the charmer. I had no sooner placed her at my right hand by the fire, but she opened to me the reason of her visit. "Mr. Bickerstaff," said the fine creature, "I have been your correspondent some time, though I never saw you before; I have writ by the name of Maria. You have told me you were too far gone in life to think of love. Therefore, I am answered as to the passion I spoke of; and," continued she, smiling, "I will not stay until you grow young again, as you men never fail to do in your dotage; but am come to consult you about disposing of myself to another. My person you see; my fortune is very considerable; but I am at present under much perplexity how to act in a great conjuncture. I have two lovers, Crassus and Lorio; Crassus is prodigiously rich, but has no one distinguishing quality; though at the same time he is not remarkable on the defective side. Lorio has travelled, is well bred, pleasant in discourse, discreet in his conduct, agreeable in his person; and with all this, he has a competency of fortune without superfluity. When I consider Lorio, my mind is filled with an idea of

the great satisfactions of a pleasant conversatio
When I think of Crassus, my equipage, numero
servants, gay liveries, and various dresses, are o
posed to the charms of his rival. In a word, wh
I cast my eyes upon Lorio, I forget and despi
fortune; when I behold Crassus, I think only
pleasing my vanity, and enjoying an uncontroll
expence in all the pleasures of life, except love
She paused here.

"Madam," said I, "I am confident you ha
not stated your case with sincerity, and that there
some secret pang which you have concealed fr
me: for I see by your aspect the generosity of yo
mind: and that open ingenuous air lets me kno
that you have too great a sense of the generc
passion of love, to prefer the ostentation of life
the arms of Crassus, to the entertainments and co
veniences of it in the company of your belo
Lorio: for so he is indeed, Madam; you speak
name with a different accent from the rest of yo
discourse. The idea his image raises in you gi
new life to your features, and new grace to yo
speech. Nay, blush not, Madam; there is
dishonour in loving a man of merit; I assure yo
am grieved at this dallying with yourself, when
put another in competition with him, for no ot
reason but superior wealth."—"To tell you, the
said she, "the bottom of my heart, there is
tilda lies by, and plants herself in the way of Cras
and I am confident will snap him if I refuse h
I cannot bear to think that she will shine above
When our coaches meet, to see her chariot h
behind with *four footmen*, and mine with but t
hers, *powdered*, gay, and saucy, kept only
show; mine, a couple of careful rogues that
good for something: I own, I cannot bear that

tilda should be in all the pride and wantonness of wealth, and I only in the ease and affluence of it."

Here I interrupted: "Well, Madam, now I see your whole affliction; you could be happy, but that you fear another would be happier. Or rather, you could be solidly happy, but that another is to be happy in appearance. This is an evil which you must get over, or never know happiness. We will put the case, Madam, that you married Crassus, and she Lorio." She answered, "Speak not of it, I could tear her eyes out at the mention of it." "Well then, I pronounce Lorio to be the man; but I must tell you, that what we call settling in the world is, in a kind, leaving it; and you must at once resolve to keep your thoughts of happiness within the reach of your fortune, and not measure it by comparison with others.——But, indeed, Madam, when I behold that beauteous form of your's, and consider the generality of your sex, as to their disposal of themselves in marriage, or their parents doing it for them without their own approbation, I cannot but look upon all such matches as the most impudent prostitutions. Do but observe, when you are at a play, the *familiar wenches* that sit laughing among the men. These appear detestable to you in the boxes. Each of them would give up her person for a guinea; and some of you would take the worst there for life for twenty thousand. If so, how do you differ but in price? As to the circumstance of marriage, I take that to be hardly an alteration of the case; for wedlock is but a more solemn prostitution, where there is not an union of minds. You would hardly believe it, but there have been designs even upon me.

"A neighbour in this very lane, who knows I have, by leading a very wary life, laid up a little money, had a great mind to marry me to his daugh-

ter. I was frequently invited to their table: the girl was always very pleasant and agreeable. After dinner, Miss Molly would be sure to fill my pipe for me, and put more sugar than ordinary into my coffee; for she was sure I was good natured. If I chanced to hem, the mother would applaud my vigour; and has often said on that occasion, 'I wonder, Mr. Bickerstaff, you do not marry, I am sure you would have children.' Things went so far, that my mistress presented me with a *wrought* night-cap and a *laced band* of her own working. I began to think of it in earnest; but one day, having an occasion to ride to Islington, as two or three people were lifting me upon my pad, I spied her at a convenient distance laughing at her lover, with a parcel of romps of her acquaintance. One of them, who I suppose had the same design upon me, told me she said, 'Do you see how briskly my old gentleman mounts?' This made me cut off my amour, and to reflect with myself, that no married life could be so unhappy, as where the wife proposes no other advantage from her husband, than that of making herself fine, and keeping her out of the dirt."

My fair client burst out a laughing at the account I gave her of my escape, and went away seemingly convinced of the reasonableness of my discourse to her.

As soon as she was gone, my maid brought up the following epistle, which, by the style, and the description she gave of the person, I suppose was left by Nick Doubt. "Hark you," said he, "girl, tell old Basket-hilt I would have him answer it by the first opportunity." What he says is this.

"ISAAC,

"You seem a very honest fellow; therefore, pray tell me, did not you write that letter in praise of the squire and his Lucubrations yourself, &c."

greatest plague of coxcombs is, that they eak upon you with an impertinent piece of se, as this jackanapes has hit me in a right ough. I must confess, I am as likely to ch a trick as another; but that letter he f was really genuine. When I first set up, t it fair enough to let myself know from all at my works were wonderfully inquired for, e become the diversion, as well as instruc- all the Choice Spirits in every county of itain. I do not doubt but the more intel- my readers found it, before this jackanapes, all him no better, took upon him to observe y style and my basket-hilt. A very pleasant an of my acquaintance told me one day a f this kind of falsehood and vanity in an

ius showed him a paper of verses, which he had received that morning by the penny- m an unknown hand. My friend admired remely. "Sir," said he, "this must come man that is eminent: you see fire, life, and un through the whole, and at the same time ctness, which shows he is used to writing. Sir, read them over again." He begins again, d all; "To Mævius, on his incomparable " The second reading was performed with nore vehemence and action than the former; hich my friend fell into downright raptures— y, they are truly sublime! there is energy in e! description in that! Why! it is the self! this is perfect picture!" Mævius could o more; but, "Faith," says he, "Ned, to the plain truth, I writ them myself."

re goes just such another story of the same al tenderness in Bavius, an ingenious contem- of mine, who had writ several comedies,

which were rejected by the players. This my friend Bavius took for envy, and therefore prevailed upon a gentleman to go with him to the play-house, and gave him a new play of his, desiring he would personate the author, and read it, to baffle the spite of the actors. The friend consented, and to reading they went. They had not gone over three similies, before Roscius the player made the acting author stop, and desired to know, "what he meant by such a rapture? and how it came to pass, that in this condition of the lover, instead of acting according to his circumstances, he spent his time in considering what his present state was like?"—"That is very true," says the mock author; "I believe we had as good strike these lines out."—"By your leave," says Bavius, "you shall not spoil your play, you are too modest; those very lines, for aught I know, are as good as any in your play, and they shall stand." Well, they go on, and the particle "and" stood unfortunately at the end of a verse, and was made to rhyme to the word "stand." This Roscius excepted against. The new poet gave up that too, and said "he would not dispute for a monosyllable."—"For a monosyllable!" says the real author; "I can assure you, a monosyllable may be of as great force as a word of ten syllables I tell you, Sir, 'and' is the connexion of the matter in that place; without that word, you may put all that follows into any other play as well as this. Besides, if you leave it out, it will look as if you had put it in only for the sake of the rhyme." Roscius persisted, assuring the gentleman, "that it was impossible to speak it, but the 'and' must be lost, and it might as well be blotted out." Bavius snatched his play out of their hands, said "they were both blockheads," and went off; repeating a couplet, because he would not make his *exit* irregularly.

witty man of these days compared this true and feigned poet to the contending mothers before Solomon; the true one was easily discovered from the pretender, by refusing to see his offspring dissected.

N° 92. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1709.

Falsus honor juvat, et mendax infamia terret
Quem nisi mendosum et mendacem?——

HOR. I. Ep. xvi.

False praise can please, and calumny affright,
None but the vicious and the hypocrite.

R. WYNNE.

White's Chocolate-house, November 9.

I know no manner of speaking so offensive as that of giving praise, and closing it with an exception; which proceeds (where men do not do it to introduce malice, and make calumny more effectual) from the common error of considering man as a perfect creature. But, if we rightly examine things, we shall find that there is a sort of economy in Providence, that one shall excel where another is defective, in order to make men more useful to each other, and mix them in society. This man having this talent, and than man another, is as necessary in conversation, as one professing one trade, and another another, is beneficial in commerce. The happiest climate does not produce all things; and it was so ordered, that one part of the earth should

want the product of another, for uniting mankind in a general correspondence and good understanding. It is, therefore, want of good sense as well as good nature, to say Simplicius has a better judgement, but not so much wit as Latius; for that these have not each other's capacities is no more a diminution to either, than if you should say, Simplicius is not Latius, or Latius not Simplicius. The heathen world had so little notion that perfection was to be expected amongst men, that among them any one quality or endowment in an heroic degree made a God. Hercules had strength; but it was never objected to him that he wanted wit. Apollo presided over wit, and it was never asked whether he had strength. We hear no exceptions against the beauty of Minerva, or the wisdom of Venus. These wise heathens were glad to immortalise any one serviceable gift, and overlook all imperfections in the person who had it. But with us it is far otherwise, for we reject many eminent virtues, if they are accompanied with one apparent weakness. The reflecting after this manner made me account for the strange delight men take in reading lampoons and scandal, with which the age abounds, and of which I receive frequent complaints. Upon mature consideration, I find it is principally for this reason, that the worst of mankind, the libellers, receive so much encouragement in the world. The low race of men take a secret pleasure in finding an eminent character levelled to their condition by a report of its defects; and keep themselves in countenance, though they are excelled in a thousand virtues, if they believe they have in common with a great person any one fault. The libeller falls in with this humour, and gratifies the baseness of temper, which is naturally an enemy to extraordinary merit. It is from this, that libel and satire are promiscuously joined together

he notions of the vulgar, though the satirist and
ller differ as much as the magistrate and the mur-
r. In the consideration of human life, the sa-
never falls upon persons who are not glaringly
ty, and the libeller on none but who are con-
nously commendable. Were I to expose any
in a good or great man, it should certainly be
orrecting it in some one where that crime was
most distinguishing part of the cha acter; as
s are chastised for the admonition of princes*.
n it is performed otherwise, the vicious are
in credit, by placing men of merit in the same
ion. But all the pasquils, lampoons, and li-
ve meet with now-a-days, are a sort of playing
the four-and-twenty letters, and throwing
into names and characters, without sense,
, or wit. In this case I am in great perplexity
ow whom they mean, and should be in distress
ose they abuse, if I did not see their judgement
ngenuity in those they commend. This is the
way of examining a libel; and when men con-
that no one man living thinks the better of
heroes and patrons for the panegyric given
none can think themselves lessened by their
tive. The hero or patron in a libel is but a
nger to carry off the dirt, and by that very em-
nt is the filthiest creature in the street. De-
ons and panegyrics are frequently ridiculous,
em be addressed where they will; but at the
or in the body of a libel, to commend a man,
ing to the persons applauded, " My Lord, or
have pulled down all men that the rest of the
think great and honourable, and here is a clear
; you may, as you please, be valiant or wise;

* is alludes to a practice long prevalent in England of
he royal children by proxy.

you may choose to be on the military or civil list; for there is no one brave who commands, or just who has power. You may rule the world now it is empty, which exploded you when it was full: I have knocked out the brains of all whom mankind thought good for any thing; and I doubt not but you will reward that invention, which found out the only expedient to make your lordship, or your worship, of any consideration."

Had I the honour to be in a libel, and had escaped the approbation of the author, I should look upon it exactly in this manner. But though it is a thing thus perfectly indifferent who is exalted or debased in such performances, yet it is not so with relation to the authors of them; therefore, I shall, for the good of my country, hereafter take upon me to punish these wretches. What is already passed may die away according to its nature, and continue in its present oblivion; but, for the future, I shall take notice of such enemies to honour and virtue, and preserve them to immortal infamy. T names shall give fresh offence many ages hence, be detested a thousand years after the commission o their crime. It shall not avail, that these childr of infamy publish their works under feigned name or under none at all; for I am so perfectly well ac quainted with the styles of all my contemporaries that I shall not fail of doing them justice, wit their proper names, and at their full length. Le these miscreants, therefore, enjoy their present ac of oblivion, and take care how they offend here after.

But, to avert our eyes from such objects, it methinks but requisite to settle our opinion in t case of praise and blame. I believe, the only tru way to cure that sensibility of reproach, which is common weakness with the most virtuous men,

to fix their regard firmly upon only what is strictly true, in relation to their advantage, as well as diminution. For if I am pleased with commendation which I do not deserve, I shall from the same temper be concerned at scandal I do not deserve. But he that can think of false applause with as much contempt as false detraction, will certainly be prepared for all adventures, and will become all occasions. *Undeserved praise can please only those who want merit, and undeserved reproach frighten only those who want sincerity.* I have thought of this with so much attention, that I fancy there can be no other method in nature found for the cure of that delicacy which gives good men pain under calumny, but placing satisfaction no where but in a just sense of their own integrity, without regard to the opinion of others. If we have not such a foundation as this, there is no help against scandal, but being in obscurity, which to noble minds is not being at all. The truth of it is, this love of praise dwells most in great and heroic spirits; and those who best deserve it have generally the most exquisite relish of it. Methinks I see the renowned Alexander, after a painful and laborious march, amidst the heats of a parched soil and a burning climate, sitting over the head of a fountain, and, after a draught of water, pronounce that memorable saying, "Oh! Athenians! How much do I suffer, that you may speak well of me?" The Athenians were at that time the learned of the world, and their libels against Alexander were written, as he was a professed enemy of their state. But how monstrous would such invectives have appeared in Macedonians!

As love of reputation is a darling passion in great men, so the defence of them in this particular is the business of every man of honour and honesty.

We should run on such an occasion, as if a publi building was on fire, to their relief; and all wh spread or publish such detestable pieces as traduc their merit should be used like incendiaries. It i the common cause of our country to support the re putation of those who preserve it against invaders and every man is attacked in the person of that neigh bour who deserves well of him.

From my own Apartment, November 9.

The chat I had to-day at White's about fame an scandal put me in mind of a person who has ofte writ to me unregarded, and has a very moderat ambition in this particular. His name, it seems, i Charles Lillie, and he recommends himself to my observation as one that sold snuff next door to the Fountain Tavern, in the Strand, and was burnt out when he began to have a reputation in his way.

" Mr. Bickerstaff,

" I suppose, through a hurry of business, you have either forgot me, or lost my last of this ture, which was to beg the favour of being adv tageously exposed in your paper, chiefly for the putation of snuff. Be pleased to pardon this tro ble from, Sir, your very humble servant,

C. L

" I am a perfumer, at the corner of Beaufort Buildings, in the Strand."

This same Charles leaves it to me to say what will of him; and I am not a little pleased with th ingenious manner of his address. Taking snuff what I have declared against; but, as his Holi the Pope allows whoring for the taxes raised by ladies of pleasure; so I, to repair the loss of an happy trader, indulge all persons in that custom

hearsal will tell you, that people in clouds must not be confined to speak sense; and I hope we that live them may claim the same privilege.

ever I am, Sir,

Your most obedient, most humble servant."

I think they ought, in those parts where the materials are so easy to work, and at the same time so durable, when any one of their heroes comes home from the wars, to erect his statue in snow upon the mountains, there to remain from generation to generation.

A gentleman who is apt to expatiate upon any hint, took this occasion to deliver his opinion upon our ordinary method of sending young gentlemen to travel for their education. "It is certain," said he, "if gentlemen travel at an age proper for them, during the course of their voyages their accounts to their friends, and after their return their discourses and conversations, will have in them something above what we can meet with, from those who have not had those advantages." At the same time it is to be observed, that every temper and genius is not qualified for this way of improvement. Men may change their climate, but they cannot their nature. A man that goes out a fool cannot ride or sail himself into common sense. Therefore, let me but walk over London Bridge with a young man, and I will tell you infallibly whether going over the Rialto at Venice will make him wiser.

It is not to be imagined how many I have saved in my time from banishment, by letting their parents know they were good for nothing. But this is to be done with much tenderness. There is my cousin Harry has a son, who is the dullest mortal that ever was born into our house; he had got his trunk and his books all packed up to be transported

into foreign parts, for no reason but because the boy never talked; and his father said, he wanted to know the world. I could not say to a fond parent that the boy was dull; but looked grave, and told him, "the youth was very thoughtful, and I feared he might have some doubts about religion, with which it was not proper to go into Roman Catholic countries." He is accordingly kept here until he declares himself upon some points, which I am sure he will never think of. By this means I have prevented the dishonour of having a fool of our house laughed at in all parts of Europe. He is now with his father upon his own estate, and he has sent to me to get him a wife, which I shall do with all convenient speed; but it shall be such a one, whose good nature shall hide his faults, and good sense supply them. The truth of it is, that race is of the true British kind. They are of our country only; it hurts them to transplant them, and they are destroyed if you pretend to improve them. [illegible] of this solid make are not to be hurried up and [illegible] the world, for, if I may so speak, they [illegible] rally at their wit's end; and it is an impertin[illegible] to disturb their repose, that they may give you a history of their bodily occurrences, which as they are capable of observing. Harry had an e[illegible] brother who was tried in this way; I remember he could talk of at his return was, "That he [illegible] like to have been drowned at such a place; he fell out of a chaise at another; he had a better stomach when he moved northward than when he turned his course to the parts in the south," and so forth. It is, therefore, very much to be considered, what sense a person has of things when he is setting out; and if he then knows none of his friends and acquaintance but by their cloaths and faces, it is humble opinion, that he stay at home. His pas

should take care to marry him, and see what they can get out of him that way; for there is a certain sort of men, who are no otherwise to be regarded but as they descend from men of consequence, and may beget valuable successors. And if we consider that men are to be considered only as they are useful, while a stupid wretch is at the head of a great family, we may say, the race is suspended, as properly as, when it is all gone, we say it is extinct.

From my own Apartment, November 11.

I had several hints and advertisements from unknown hands, that some, who are enemies to my labours, design to demand the fashionable way of satisfaction for the disturbance my Lucubrations have given them. I confess, as things now stand, I do not know how to deny such inviters, and am preparing myself accordingly. I have bought pumps and files, and am every morning practising in my chamber. My neighbour, the dancing master, has demanded of me, "why I take this liberty, since I would not allow it him?" but I answered, "his was an act of an indifferent nature, and mine of necessity." My late treatises against duels have so far disobliged the fraternity of the noble science of defence, that I can get none of them to show me so much as one pass. I am, therefore, obliged to learn by book; and have accordingly several volumes, wherein all the postures are exactly delineated. I must confess, I am shy of letting people see me at this exercise, because of my flannel waistcoat, and my spectacles, which I am forced to fix on, the better to observe the posture of the enemy.

I have upon my chamber-walls drawn at full length the figures of all sorts of men, from eight feet to three feet two inches. Within this height, I

take it, that all the fighting men of Great-Brit
are comprehended. But, as I push, I make allow
ances for my being of a lank and spare body, and
have chalked out in every figure my own dimen
sions; for I scorn to rob any man of his life by
taking advantage of his breadth: therefore, I pres
purely in a line down from his nose, and take n
more of him to assault than he has of me: for, t
speak impartially, if a lean fellow wounds a fat on
in any part to the right or left, whether it be in *carte*
or in *tierce*, beyond the dimensions of the said lean
fellow's own breadth, I take it to be murder, and
such a murder as is below a gentleman to commit
As I am spare, I am also very tall, and behave my
self with relation to that advantage with the same
punctilio; and I am ready to stoop or stand, ac
cording to the stature of my adversary. I m
confess, I have had great success this morning, and
have hit every figure round the room in a mor
part, without receiving the least hurt, except a litt
scratch by falling on my face, in pushing at one a
the lower end of my chamber; but I recove
quick, and jumped so nimbly into my guard,
if he had been alive, he could not have hurt
It is confessed I have written against duels
some warmth; but in all my discourses I have
ever said that I knew how a gentleman could av
a duel if he were provoked to it; and since thi
custom is now become a law, I know nothing
the legislative power, with new animadversions up
it, can put us in a capacity of denying challe
though we were afterwards hanged for it. But
more of this at present. As things stand, I
put up no more affronts; and I shall be so far
taking ill words, that I will not take ill looks.
therefore, warn all hot young fellows not to look
hereafter more terrible than their neighbours: for,

if they stare at me with their hats cocked higher than other people, I will not bear it. Nay, I give warning to all people in general to look kindly at me; for I will bear no frowns, even from ladies; and if any woman pretends to look scornfully at me, I shall demand satisfaction of the next of kin of the masculine gender.

№ 94. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1709.

Si non erràsset, fecerat ille minus. MART. I. 22.

Had he not err'd, his glory had been less.

Will's Coffee-house, November 14.

That which we call gallantry to women seems to be the heroic virtue of private persons; and there never breathed one man, who did not, in that part of his days wherein he was recommending himself to his mistress, do something beyond his ordinary course of life. As this has a very great effect even upon the most slow and common men; so, upon such as it finds qualified with virtue and merit, it shines out in proportionable degrees of excellence. It gives new grace to the most eminent accomplishments; and he, who of himself has either wit, wisdom, or valour, exerts each of these noble endowments, when he becomes a lover, with a certain beauty of action above what was ever observed in him before; and all who are without any one of

these qualities are to be looked upon as the rabble of mankind.

I was talking after this manner in a corner of this place with an old acquaintance, who, taking me by the hand, said, "Mr. Bickerstaff, your discourse recalls to my mind a story, which I have longed to tell you ever since I read that article wherein you desire your friends to give you accounts of obscure merit." The story I had of him is literally true, and well known to be so in the country wherein the circumstances were transacted. He acquainted me with the names of the persons concerned, which I shall change into feigned ones; there being a respect due to their families that are still in being, as well as that the names themselves would not be so familiar to an English ear. The adventure really happened in Denmark; and if I can remember all the passages, I doubt not but it will be as moving to my readers as it was to me.

Clarinda and Chloe, two very fine women, were bred up as sisters in the family of Romeo, who was the father of Chloe, and the guardian of Clarinda. Philander, a young gentleman of a good person, and charming conversation, being a friend of old Romeo, frequented his house, and by that means was much in conversation with the young ladies, though still in the presence of the father and the guardian. The ladies both entertained a secret passion for him, and could see well enough, notwithstanding the delight which he really took in Romeo's conversation, that there was something more in his heart, which made him so assiduous a visitant. Each of them thought herself the happy woman; but the person beloved was Chloe. It happened that both of them were at a play in a carnaval evening, when it is the fashion there, as well as in most countries of Europe, both for men and

women to appear in masks and disguises. It was on that memorable night, in the year 1679, when the playhouse, by some unhappy accident, was set on fire. Philander, in the first hurry of the disaster, immediately ran where his treasure was; burst open the door of the box, snatched the lady up in his arms; and, with unspeakable resolution and good fortune, carried her off safe. He was no sooner out of the crowd, but he sat her down; and, grasping her in his arms, with all the raptures of a deserving lover, "How happy am I," says he, "in an opportunity to tell you I love you more than all things, and of showing you the sincerity of my passion at the very first declaration of it!"—"My dear, dear Philander," says the lady, pulling off her mask, "this is not a time for art; you are much dearer to me than the life you have preserved; and the joy of my present deliverance does not transport me so much as the passion which occasioned it." Who can tell the grief, the astonishment, the terror, that appeared in the face of Philander, when he saw the person he spoke to was Clarinda? After a short pause, "Madam," says he, with the looks of a dead man, "we are both mistaken;" and immediately flew away, without hearing the distressed Clarinda, who had just strength enough to cry out, "Cruel Philander! why did you not leave me in the theatre?" Crowds of people immediately gathered about her, and, after having brought her to herself, conveyed her to the house of the good old unhappy Romeo. Philander was now pressing against a whole tide of people at the doors of the theatre, and striving to enter with more earnestness than any there endeavoured to get out. He did it at last, and with much difficulty forced his way to the box where his beloved Chloe stood, expecting her fate amidst this scene of terror and distraction. She

revived at the sight of Philander, who fell about he neck with a tenderness not to be expressed; and amidst a thousand sobs and sighs, told her his love and his dreadful mistake. The stage was now i flames, and the whole house full of smoke: t entrance was quite barred up with heaps of peop who had fallen upon one another as they endeavoure to get out. Swords were drawn, shrieks heard o all sides; and, in short, no possibility of an es for Philander himself, had he been capable o making it without his Chloe. But his mind v above such a thought, and wholly employed weeping, condoling, and comforting. He catch her in his arms. The fire surrounds them, whi ——I cannot go on——

Were I an infidel, misfortunes like this w convince me that there must be an hereafter: no who can believe that so much virtue could mee with so great distress without a following reward As for my part, I am so old-fashioned, as firmly t believe, that all who perish in such generous ente prises are relieved from the further exercise of life and Providence, which sees their virtue consumm and manifest, takes them to an immediate rev in a being more suitable to the grandeur of the spirits. What else can wipe away our tears, wh we contemplate such undeserved, such irrep distresses? It was a sublime thought in so the heathens of old;

——Quæ gratia currum
Armorumque fuit vivis, quæ cura nitentes
Pascere equos, eadem sequitur tellure repostos. Vir

That is, in other words, "The same employmen and inclinations which were the entertainment virtuous men upon earth make up their happiness Elysium."

From my own Apartment, November 14.

When I came home this evening, I found a present from Mr. Charles Lillie, the perfumer, at the corner of Beaufort-buildings, with a letter of thanks for the mention I made of him. He tells me, "several of my gentle readers have obliged me in buying at his shop upon my recommendation." I have inquired into the man's capacity, and find him an adept in his way. He has several helps to discourse besides snuff, which is the best Barcelona, and sells an orange-flower water, which seems to me to have in it the right spirit of brains; and I am informed, he extracts it according to the manner used in Gresham-College*. I recommend it to the handkerchiefs of all young pleaders. It cures or supplies all pauses and hesitations in speech, and creates a general alacrity of the spirit. When it is used as a gargle, it gives volubility to the tongue, and never fails of that necessary step towards pleasing others, making a man pleased with himself. I have taken security of him, that he shall not raise the price of any of his commodities for these or any other occult qualities in them; but he is to sell them at the same price which you give at the common perfumers. Mr. Lillie has brought further security, that he will not sell the boxes made for politicians to lovers; nor, on the contrary, those proper for lovers to men of speculation: "At this time, to avoid confusion, the best orangerie for beaux, and right musty for politicians."

*** My almanack is to be published on the twenty-second, and from that instant all lovers, in raptures or epistles, are to forbear the comparison of

* The Royal Society then met at Gresham-College.

their mistresses' eyes to stars: I having made use
that simile in my dedication for the last time it sha
ever pass, and on the properest occasion that it
ever employed. All ladies are hereby d
take notice, that they never receive that
in payment for any similies they shall bestow
future.

†††† On Saturday night last a gentlewoman's
band strayed from the play-house in the Hay-n
If the lady who was seen to take him up will
him, she shall be asked no questions, he being
use but to the owner.

No 95. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1

Interea dulces pendent circum oscula nati,
Casta pudicitiam servat domus——

VIRG. Georg. II

His cares are eas'd with intervals of bliss;
His little children, climbing for a kiss,
Welcome their father's late return at night;
His faithful bed is crown'd with chaste delight.

DRY

From my own Apartment, November 16.

THERE are several persons who have many ple
and entertainments in their possession, which
do not enjoy. It is, therefore, a kind and goo
fice to acquaint them with their own happiness,
turn their attention to such instances of their
fortune as they are apt to overlook. Persons in

ied state often want such a monitor; and pine their days, by looking upon the same condi- in anguish and murmur, which carries with it e opinion of others a complication of all the s of life, and a retreat from its inquietudes.

led into this thought by a visit I made an old n, who was formerly my school-fellow. He to town last week with his family for the win- and yesterday morning sent me word his wife cted me to dinner. I am as it were at home at house, and every member of it knows me for well-wisher. I cannot indeed express the plea- it is, to be met by the children with so much s I am when I go thither. The boys and girls e who shall come first, when they think it is I am knocking at the door; and that child which the race to me runs back again to tell the father Mr. Bickerstaff. This day I was led in by a y girl, that we all thought must have forgot for the family has been out of town these two s. Her knowing me again was a mighty subject us, and took up our discourse at the first en- ce. After which, they began to rally upon usand little stories they heard in the country it my marriage to one of my neighbour's daugh-

Upon which the gentleman, my friend, said, ay, if Mr. Bickerstaff marries a child of any of ld companions, I hope mine shall have the pre- nce; there is Mrs. Mary is *now sixteen*, and make him as fine a widow as the best of them. I know him too well; he is so enamoured with very memory of those who flourished in our , that he will not so much as look upon the n beauties. I remember, old gentleman, how you went home in a day to refresh your coun- nce and dress, when Teraminta reigned in your . As we came up in the coach, I repeated to

my wife some of your verses on her." With reflexions on little passages which happened ago, we passed our time, during a cheerful an gant meal. After dinner, his lady left the roo did also the children. As soon as we were alon took me by the hand; "Well, my good fri says he, "I am heartily glad to see thee; I afraid you would never have seen all the com that dined with you to-day again. Do not you the good woman of the house a little altered, you followed her from the play-house, to fin who she was for me?" I perceived a tear fall his cheek as he spoke, which moved me not a But, to turn the discourse, I said, "She is n deed quite that creature she was, when she ret me the letter I carried from you; and told me, hoped, as I was a gentleman, I would be emp no more to trouble her, who had never offended but would be so much the gentleman's friend, dissuade him from a pursuit, which he could succeed in.' You may remember, I thought l earnest; and you were forced to employ your c Will, who made his sister get acquainted witl for you. You cannot expect her to be for ev teen."—"Fifteen!" replied my good friend: " you little understand, you that have lived a bac how great, how exquisite a pleasure there i being really beloved! It is impossible, that the beauteous face in nature should raise in me pleasing ideas, as when I look upon that exc woman. That fading in her countenance is c caused by her watching with me, in my fever. was followed by a fit of sickness, which had l have carried her off last winter. I tell you sinc I have so many obligations to her, that I c with any sort of moderation, think of her p state of health. But as to what you say of fi

she gives me every day pleasures beyond what I ever knew in the possession of her beauty, when I was in the vigour of youth. Every moment of her life brings me fresh instances of her complacency *to* my inclinations, and her prudence in regard to my fortune. Her face is to me much more beautiful than when I first saw it; there is no decay in any feature, which I cannot trace, from the very instant it was occasioned by some anxious concern for my welfare and interests. Thus, at the same time, methinks, the love I conceived towards her for what she was is heightened by my gratitude for what she is. The love of a wife is as much above the idle passion commonly called by that name, as the loud laughter of buffoons is inferior to the elegant mirth of gentlemen. Oh! she is an inestimable jewel. In her examination of her household affairs, she shows a certain fearfulness to find a fault, which makes her servants obey her like children; and the meanest we have has an ingenuous shame for an offence, not always to be seen in children in other families. I speak freely to you, my old friend: ever since her sickness, things that gave me the quickest joy before turn now to a certain anxiety. As the children play in the next room, I know the poor things by their steps, and am considering what they must do, should they lose their mother in their tender years. The pleasure I used to take in telling my boy stories of battles, and asking my girl questions about the disposal of her baby, and the gossipping of it, is turned into inward reflexion and melancholy."

He would have gone on in this tender way, when the good lady entered, and with an inexpressible sweetness in her countenance told us, "she has been searching her closet for something very good, to treat such an old friend as I was." Her husband's

eyes sparkled with pleasure at the cheerfulness of her countenance; and I saw all his fears vanish in an instant. The lady observing something in our looks which showed we had been more serious than ordinary, and seeing her husband receive her with great concern under a forced cheerfulness, immediately guessed at what we had been talking of; and applying herself to me, said, with a smile, "Mr. Bickerstaff, do not believe a word of what he tells you, I shall still live to have you for my second, as I have often promised you, unless he takes more care of himself than he has done since his coming to town. You must know, he tells me that he finds London is a much more healthy place than the country; for he sees several of his old acquaintance and school-fellows are here *young fellows with fair full bottomed periwigs*. I could scarce keep him this morning from going out *open-breasted*." My friend who is always extremely delighted with her agreeable humour, made her sit down with us. She did it with that easiness which is peculiar to women of sense; and to keep up the good humour she had brought in with her, turned her raillery upon me. "Mr. Bickerstaff, you remember you followed one night from the play-house; suppose you should carry me thither to-morrow night, and lead me to the front-box." This put us into a long field of discourse about the beauties, who were mothers to the present, and shined in the boxes twenty years ago. I told her, "I was glad she had transferred so many of her charms, and I did not question but her eldest daughter was within half a year of being a Toast."

We were pleasing ourselves with this fanciful preferment of the young lady, when on a sudden we were alarmed with the noise of a drum, and immediately entered my little godson to give me a point

of war*. His mother, between laughing and chiding, would have put him out of the room; but I would not part with him so. I found upon conversation with him, though he was a little noisy in his mirth, that the child had excellent parts, and was a great master of all the learning on the other side eight years old. I perceived him a very great historian in Æsop's Fables: but he frankly declared to me his mind, "that he did not delight in that learning, because he did not believe they were true;" for which reason I found he had very much *turned* his studies, for about a twelve-month past, into the lives and adventures of Don Bellianis of Greece, Guy of Warwick, the Seven Champions, and other historians of that age. I could not but observe the satisfaction the father took in the forwardness of his son; and that these diversions might turn to some profit, I found the boy had made remarks, which might be of service to him during the course of his whole life. He would tell you the mismanagements of John Hickathrift, find fault with the passionate temper in Bevis of Southampton, and loved Saint George for being the champion of England; and by this means had his thoughts insensibly moulded into the notions of discretion, virtue, and honour. I was extolling his accomplishments, when the mother told me, "that the little girl who led me in this morning was in her way a better scholar than he. Betty," says she, "deals chiefly in fairies and sprights; and sometimes in a winter-night will terrify the maids with her accounts, until they are afraid to go up to bed."

I sat with them until it was very late, sometimes in merry, sometimes in serious discourse, with this particular pleasure, which gives the only true relish

* See Tatler, No. 114; aged 15, here only 8.

to all conversation, a sense that every one of us lil
each other. I went home, considering the differe
conditions of a married life and that of a bachelo
and I must confess it struck me with a secret co
cern, to reflect, that whenever I go off I shall lea
no traces behind me. In this pensive mood I retu
to my family; that is to say, to my maid, my d
and my cat, who only can be the better or worse
what happens to me.

N° 96. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 170

*Is mihi demum vivere et frui animâ videtur, qui aliquo nego
intentus, præclari facinoris aut artis bonæ famam quærit.*
SALL. Bell. C

In my opinion, he only may be truly said to live, and enjoy h
being, who is engaged in some laudable pursuit, and acquir
a name by some illustrious action, or useful art.

From my own Apartment, November 17.

It has cost me very much care and thought
marshal and fix the people under their proper d
nominations, and to range them according to the
respective characters. These my endeavours ha
been received with unexpected success in one kin
but neglected in another: for though I have ma
readers, I have but few converts. This must ce
tainly proceed from a false opinion, that what
write is designed rather to amuse and entertain, th
convince and instruct. I entered upon my Essa
with a declaration that I should consider manki

in quite another manner than they had hitherto been represented to the ordinary world; and asserted, that none but an useful life should be, with me, any life at all. But, lest this doctrine should have made this small progress towards the conviction of mankind, because it may have appeared to the unlearned light and whimsical, I must take leave to unfold the wisdom and antiquity of my proposition in these my Essays, to wit, that "every worthless man is a dead man." This notion is as old as Pythagoras, in whose school it was a point of discipline, that if among the Ἀκουστικοί, or probationers, there were any who grew weary of studying to be useful, and returned to an idle life, they were to regard them as dead; and, upon their departing, to perform their obsequies, and raise them tombs, with inscriptions to warn others of the like mortality, and quicken them to resolutions of refining their souls above that wretched state. It is upon a like supposition, that young ladies, at this very time, in Roman Catholic countries, are received into some nunneries with their coffins, and with the pomp of a formal funeral, to signify, that henceforth they are to be of no further use, and consequently dead. Nor was Pythagoras himself the first author of this symbol, with whom, and with the Hebrews, it was generally received. Much more might be offered in illustration of this doctrine from sacred authority, which I recommend to my reader's own reflexion; who will easily recollect, from places which I do not think fit to quote here, the forcible manner of applying the words *dead* and *living* to men, as they are good or bad.

I have, therefore, composed the following scheme of existence for the benefit both of the living and the dead; though chiefly for the latter, whom I must desire to read it with all possible attention. In

the number of the dead I comprehend all p
of what title or dignity soever, who bestow
their time in eating and drinking, to suppo
imaginary existence of theirs, which they ca
or in dressing and adorning those shadows and
ritions, which are looked upon by the vulgar
men and women. In short, whoever resides
world without having any business in it, and
away an age without ever thinking on the
for which he was sent hither, is to me a de
to all intents and purposes; and I desire that h
be so reputed. The living are only those th
some way or other laudably employed in t
provement of their own minds, or for the ad
of others; and even amongst these, I shall only
into their lives that part of their time which
spent in the manner above-mentioned. By
means, I am afraid, we shall find the longe
not to consist of many months, and the gr
of the earth to be quite unpeopled. Accor
this system we may observe, that some men
at twenty years of age, some at thirty, s
threescore, and some not above an hour befo
die: nay, we may observe multitudes that d
out ever being born, as well as many dead
that fill up the bulk of mankind, and make
figure in the eyes of the ignorant, than th
are alive, and in their proper and full state of
However, since there may be many good
that pay their taxes, and live peaceably in t
bitations, who are not yet born, or have dep
life several years since, my design is, to en
both to join themselves as soon as possibl
number of the living. For as I invite the fo
break forth into being, and become good f
thing; so I allow the latter a state of resu
which I chiefly mention for the sake of a per

has lately published an advertisement, with several scurrilous terms in it, that do by no means become a dead man to give: it is my departed friend John Partridge, who concludes the advertisement of his next year's almanack, with the following note:

"Whereas it has been industriously given out by Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire, and others, to prevent the sale of this year's almanack, that John Partridge is dead: this may inform all his loving countrymen, that he is still living in health, and they are knaves that reported it otherwise.

"J. P."

From my own Apartment, November 18.

When an engineer finds his guns have not had their intended effect, he changes his batteries. I am forced at present to take this method; and instead of continuing to write against the singularity some are guilty of in their habit and behaviour, I shall henceforward desire them to persevere in it; and not only so, but shall take it as a favour of all the coxcombs in the town, if they will set marks upon themselves, and by some particular in their dress show to what class they belong. It would be very obliging in all such persons, who feel in themselves that they are not of sound understanding to give the world notice of it, and spare mankind the pains of finding them out. A cane upon the fifth button shall from henceforth be the type of a Dapper; red-heeled shoes, and an hat hung upon one side of the head, shall signify a Smart; *a good periwig made into a twist, with a brisk cock,* shall speak a Mettled Fellow; and an upper lip covered with snuff, denote a Coffee-house Statesman. But as it is required that all coxcombs hang out their signs, it is on the other hand expected that men of real merit should avoid any thing particular in their dress, gait, or beha-

viour. For, as we old men delight in prov
cannot forbear bringing out one on this oc
" That good wine needs no bush." I mi
leave this subject without reflecting on sever
sons I have lately met with, who at a distanc
very terrible; but upon a stricter inquiry int
looks and features, appear as meek and harm
any of my own neighbours. These are countr
tlemen, who of late years have taken up an h
of coming to town in red coats, whom an arc
of my acquaintance used to describe very we
calling them, " sheep in wolves' cloathing."
often wondered, that honest gentlemen, wh
good neighbours, and live quietly in their ow
sessions, should take it in their heads to fright
town after this unreasonable manner. I shall
myself obliged, if they persist in so unnatural a
notwithstanding any posts they may have i
militia, to give away their red coats to any
soldiery who shall think fit to strip them, pro
the said soldiers can make it appear that they b
to a regiment where there is a deficiency i
cloathing.

About two days ago I was walking in the
and accidentally met a rural esquire, cloathed
the types above mentioned, with a carriage an
haviour made entirely out of his own head. H
of a bulk and stature larger than ordinary, had
coat, flung open to show a gay calamanco wais
His periwig fell in a very considerable bush
each shoulder. His arms naturally swang at a
reasonable distance from his sides; which, wit
advantage of a cane that he brandished in a
variety of irregular motions, made it unsafe fo
one to walk within several yards of him. I
manner he took up the whole Mall, his spect
moving on each side of it, whilst he cocked u

hat, and marched directly for Westminster. I cannot tell who this gentleman is, but for my comfort, may say with the lover in Terence, who lost sight of a fine young lady, "Wherever thou art, thou canst not be long concealed."

St. James's Coffee-house, November 18.

By letters from Paris, of the sixteenth, we are informed that the French king, the princes of the blood, and the elector of Bavaria, had lately killed fifty-five pheasants.

*** Whereas several have industriously spread abroad, that I am in partnership with Charles Lillie, the perfumer, at the corner of Beaufort-buildings; I must say, with my friend Partridge, that they are knaves who reported it. However, since the said Charles has promised that all his customers shall be mine, I must desire all mine to be his; and dare answer for him, that if you ask in my name for snuff, Hungary or orange water, you shall have the best the town affords, at the cheapest rate.

N° 97. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1709.

Illud maximè rarum genus est eorum, qui aut excellente ingenî magnitudine, aut præclarâ eruditione atque doctrinâ, aut utráque re ornati, spatium deliberandi habuerint, quem tissimum vitæ cursum sequi vellent. TULL.

There are very few persons of extraordinary genius, or emin for learning and other noble endowments, who have l sufficient time to consider what particular course of life the ought to pursue.

From my own Apartment, November 21.

HAVING swept away prodigious multitudes in my last paper, and brought a great destruction upon m own species, I must endeavour in this to raise fr recruits, and, if possible, to supply the places of t unborn and the deceased. It is said of Xerxes, t when he stood upon a hill, and saw the whole coun try round him covered with his army, he bu into tears, to think that not one of that mu would be alive an hundred years after. For my when I take a survey of this populous city, I scarce forbear weeping, to see how few of its inha bitants are now living. It was with this thought tha I drew up my last bill of mortality, and endeavoure to set out in it the great number of persons who hav perished by a distemper commonly known by th name of idleness, which has long raged in the wo and destroys more in every great town than t plague has done at Dantzick. To repair the mischie it has done, and stock the world with a better rac of mortals, I have more hopes of bringing to lif

woods to town last November. He was at that time one of those country savages, who despise the softness they meet in town and court; and professedly show their strength and roughness in every motion and gesture, in scorn of our bowing and cringing. He was, at his first appearance, very remarkable for that piece of good breeding peculiar to natural Britons, to wit, defiance; and showed every one he met he was as good a man as he. But, in the midst of all his fierceness, he would sometimes attend the discourse of a man of sense, and look at the charms of a beauty, with his eyes and mouth open. He was in this posture when, in the beginning of last December, he was shot by Cleora from a side-box. From that moment he softened into humanity, forgot his dogs and horses, and now moves and speaks with civility and address.

Wat. Wisdom, by the death of an elder brother, came to a great estate, when he had proceeded just far enough in his studies to be very impertinent, and at the years when the law gives him possession of his fortune, and his own constitution is too warm for the management of it. Orson is learning to fence and dance, to please and fight for his mistress; and Walter preparing fine horses, and a jingling chariot to enchant her. All persons concerned will appear at the next opera, where will begin the wild-goose chace; and I doubt Fabio will see himself so overlooked for Orson or Walter, as to turn his eyes on the modest passion and becoming languor in the countenance of Diana; it being my design to supply with the art of love, all those who preserve the sincere passion of it.

Will's Coffee-house, November 23.

An ingenious and worthy gentleman, my ancient friend, fell into discourse with me this evening

"My dear Hercules," says she, "I find very much divided in your own thoughts, u way of life that you ought to choose. Be m and follow me; I will lead you into the p of pleasure, and out of the reach of pain, anc you from all the noise and disquietude of l The affairs of either war or peace shall l power to disturb you. Your whole employm be, to make your life easy, and to enterta sense with its proper gratification. Sumptuou beds of roses, clouds of perfumes, concerts c crouds of beauties, are all in readiness to rec Come along with me into this region of delig world of pleasure, and bid farewell for ever tc pain, to business."

Hercules, hearing the lady talk after this desired to know her name; to which she a "My friends, and those who are well ac with me, call me Happiness: but my enem those who would injure my reputation, ha me the name of Pleasure."

By this time the other lady was come up, dressed herself to the young hero in a very manner.

"Hercules," says she, "I offer up mysel because I know you are descended from t and give proofs of that descent by your love t and application to the studies proper for y This makes me hope you will gain both for and me an immortal reputation. But, before you into my society and friendship, I will and sincere with you, and must lay down th established truth, That *there is nothing truly which can be purchased without pains and* The gods have set a price upon every real a pleasure. If you would gain the favour of t you must be at the pains of worshipping him

friendship of good men, you must study to oblige them; if you would be honoured by your country, you must take care to serve it. In short, if you would be eminent in war or peace, you must become master of all the qualifications that can make you so. These are the only terms and conditions upon which I can propose happiness." The goddess of Pleasure here broke in upon her discourse. "You see," said she, "Hercules, by her own confession, the way to her pleasure is long and difficult, whereas that which I propose is short and easy."—"Alas!" said the other lady, whose visage glowed with a passion made up of scorn and pity, "what are the pleasures you propose? To eat before you are hungry, drink before you are a-thirst, sleep before you are a-tired, to gratify appetites before they are raised, and raise such appetites as nature never planted. You never heard the most delicious music, which is the praise of one's self; nor saw the most beautiful object, which is the work of one's own hands. Your votaries pass away their youth in a dream of mistaken pleasures, while they are hoarding up anguish, torment, and remorse for old age.

"As for me, I am the friend of the gods and of good men, an agreeable companion to the artisan, an household guardian to the fathers of families, a patrón and protector of servants, an associate in all true and generous friendships. The banquets of my votaries are never costly, but always delicious; for none eat or drink at them who are not invited by hunger and thirst. Their slumbers are sound, and their wakings cheerful. My young men have the pleasure of hearing themselves praised by those who are in years; and those who are in years, of being honoured by those who are young. In a word, my followers are favoured by the gods, beloved by their

acquaintance, esteemed by their country, and, a the close of their labours, honoured by posterity.

We know by the life of this memorable hero, which of these two ladies he gave up his hea and I believe, every one who reads this will do h the justice to approve his choice.

I very much admire the speeches of these ladi as containing in them the chief arguments for a l of virtue, or a life of pleasure, that could enter the thoughts of an heathen; but am particul pleased with the different figures he gives the goddesses. Our modern authors have rep Pleasure or Vice with an alluring face, but e in snakes and monsters. Here she appears in all charms of beauty, though they are all false and b rowed; and by that means composes a vision entirely natural and pleasing.

I have translated this allegory for the ben the youth of Great-Britain; and particularly of who are still in the deplorable state of non istence, and whom I most earnestly entreat to c into the world. Let my embrios show the least clination to any single virtue, and I shall allow it be a struggling towards birth. I do not expect them that, like the hero in the foregoing story, th should go about as soon as they are born, with club in their hands, and a lion's skin on th shoulders, to root out monsters, and destroy tyran but, as the finest author of all antiquity has upon this very occasion, though a man has the abilities to distinguish himself in the shining parts of a great character, he has c an the capacity of being just, faithful, mode a temperate.

N° 98. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1709.

From my own Apartment, November 23.

I READ the following letter, which was left for me this evening, with very much concern for the lady's condition who sent it, who expresses the state of her mind with great frankness, as all people ought who talk to their physicians.

" MR. BICKERSTAFF,

" Though you are stricken in years, and have had great experience in the world, I believe you will say, there are not frequently such difficult occasions to act in with decency, as those wherein I am entangled. I am a woman in love, and that you will allow to be the most unhappy of all circumstances in human life. Nature has formed us with a strong reluctance against owning such a passion, and custom has made it criminal in us to make advances. A gentleman, whom I will call Fabio, has the entire possession of my heart. I am so intimately acquainted with him, that he makes no scruple of communicating to me an ardent affection he has for Cleora, a friend of mine, who also makes me her confident. Most part of my life I am in company with the one or the other, and am always entertained with his passion, or her triumph. Cleora is one of those ladies, who think they are virtuous, if they are not guilty; and, without any delicacy of choice, resolves to take the best offer which shall be made to her. With this prospect she puts off declaring herself in favour of Fabio, until she sees what lovers will fall into her snares, which she lays

upon the force and efficacy which the writi
good poets have on the minds of their inte
readers; and recommended to me his sense
matter, thrown together in the following n
which he desired me to communicate to the
of Great-Britain in my Essays. I choose to
his own words.

" I have always been of opinion," says he,
virtue sinks deepest into the heart of man,
comes recommended by the powerful charm
etry. The most active principle in our min
imagination: to it a good poet makes his co
petually, and by this faculty takes care to
first. Our passions and inclinations com
next; and our reason surrenders itself wit
sure in the end. Thus the whole soul is in
betrayed into morality, by bribing the fan
beautiful and agreeable images of those ver
that in the books of the philosophers appear
and have at the best but a kind of forbidding
In a word, the poets do, as it were, st
rough paths of virtue so full of flowers, that
not sensible of the uneasiness of them; and
ourselves in the midst of pleasures, and t
bewitching allurements, at the time we are
progress in the severest duties of life.

" All men agree, that licentious poems d
writings, soonest corrupt the heart. A
should we not be as universally persuaded,
grave and serious performances of such as
the most engaging manner, by a kind of di
pulse, must be the most effectual per
goodness? If, therefore, I were blessed wi
in order to the forming of his manners,
making him truly my son, I should be co
putting into his hand some fine poet. The
sentences, and the manly sentiments, so fr

to be met with in every great and sublime writer, are, in my judgement, the most ornamental and valuable furniture that can be for a young gentleman's head; methinks they show like so much rich embroidery upon the brain. Let me add to this, that humanity and tenderness, without which there can be no true greatness in the mind, are inspired by the Muses in such pathetical language, that all we find in prose-authors towards the raising and improving of these passions is, in comparison, but cold or lukewarm at the best. There is besides a certain elevation of soul, a sedate magnanimity, and a noble turn of virtue, that distinguishes the hero from the plain honest man, to which verse can only raise us. The bold metaphors, and sounding numbers, peculiar to the poets, rouse up all our sleeping faculties, and alarm the whole powers of the soul, much like that excellent trumpeter mentioned by Virgil:

———*Quo non præstantior alter*
Ære ciere viros, Martemque accendere cantu.
VIRG. Æn. VI. 165.

———None so renown'd
With breathing brass to kindle fierce alarms.
DRYDEN.

"I fell into this train of thinking this evening, upon reading a passage in a masque writ by Milton, where two brothers are introduced seeking their sister, whom they had lost in a dark night and thick wood. One of the brothers is apprehensive lest the wandering virgin should be overpowered with fears, through the darkness and loneliness of the time and place. This gives the other occasion to e the following reflexions, which, as I read , made me forget my age, and renewed in me

the warm desires after virtue, so natural to uncorrupted youth.

"I do not think my sister so to seek,
Or so unprincipled in virtue's book,
And the sweet peace that goodness bosoms ever,
As that the single want of light and noise
(Not being in danger, as I trust she is not)
Could stir the constant mood of her calm thoughts,
And put them into misbecoming plight.
Virtue could see to do what Virtue would
By her own radiant light, though sun and moon
Were in the flat sea sunk. And Wisdom's self
Oft seeks to sweet retired solitude:
Where, with her best nurse, Contemplation,
She plumes her feathers, and lets grow her wings,
That in the various bustle of resort
Were all too ruffled, and sometimes impair'd:
He that has light within his own clear breast,
May sit o' th' centre, and enjoy bright day:
But he that hides a dark soul and foul thoughts,
Benighted walks under the mid-day sun;
Himself in his own dungeon."

N° 99. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1709.

——*Spirat Tragicum satis et feliciter audet.*
HOR. 2 Ep. I. 166.

He, fortunately bold, breathes true sublime.

Will's Coffee-house, November 25.

I HAVE been this evening recollecting what passages, since I could first think, have left the strongest impressions upon my mind; and, after strict inquiry, I am convinced that the impulses I

ve received from theatrical representations have
d a greater effect than otherwise would have been
ought in me by the little occurrences of my pri-
te life! My old friends, Hart and Mohun, the
e by his natural and proper force, the other by his
at skill and art, never failed to send me home
l of such ideas as affected my behaviour, and
de me insensibly more courteous and humane to
friends and acquaintance. It is not the business
a good play to make every man an hero; but it
tainly gives him a livelier sense of virtue and me-
than he had when he entered the theatre.

This rational pleasure, as I always call it, has for
ny years been very little tasted: but I am glad
find that the true spirit of it is reviving again
ongst us, by a due regard to what is presented,
l by supporting only one playhouse. It has been
hin the observation of the youngest amongst us,
t while there were two houses, they did not out-
each other by such representations as tended to
nstruction and ornament of life, but by intro-
ing mimical dances, and fulsome buffooneries.
when an excellent tragedy was to be acted in
house, the ladder-dancer carried the whole
n to the other. Indeed such an evil as this must
the natural consequence of two theatres, as cer-
ily as that there are more who can see than can
t. Every one is sensible of the danger of the fel-
on the ladder, and can see his activity in coming
n safe; but very few are judges of the distress
n hero in a play, or of his manner of behaviour
those circumstances. Thus, to please the people,
houses must entertain them with what they can
erstand, and not with things which are designed
improve their understanding: and the readiest
y to gain good audiences must be, to offer such
s as are most relished by the crowd that is to

say, immodest action, empty show, or imperti activity. In short, two houses cannot hop subsist, but by means which are contradictor the very institution of a theatre in a well-gove kingdom.

I have ever had this sense of the thing, an that reason have rejoiced that my ancient c friend of Drury-lane, though he had sold off of his moveables, still kept possession of his pa and trembled for him, when he had lately lil have been taken by a stratagem. There have many ages, been a certain learned sort of unles men in this nation called attornies, who have t upon them to solve all difficulties by incre them, and are called upon to the assistance who are lazy, or weak of understanding. Th solence of a ruler of this palace made him resig possession of it to the management of my al mentioned friend Divito*. Divito was too m to know when to resign it, until he had the op and sentence of the law for his removal. these in length of time were obtained against but as the great Archimedes defended Syracuse so powerful engines, that if he threw a rope or of wood over the wall, the enemy fled; so I had wounded all adversaries with so much that men feared even to be in the right against For this reason the lawful ruler sets up an att

* This and the following paragraph refer to a trans between William Collier, Esq. and Christopher Rich, two lawyers, of which there is here given a very ludicr count.

Rich was the patentee of Drury-lane Theatre, when having first obtained a licence to head a company of p procured next a lease of Drury-lane play-house, from the lords of it, and under this authority, by the help of a rabble, he forcibly expelled Rich, and got possession.

to expel an attorney, and chose a name dreadful to the stage, who only seemed able to beat Divito out of his entrenchments.

On the twenty-second instant, a night of public ejoicing, the enemies of Divito made a largess to he people of faggots, tubs, and other combustible r, which was erected into a bonfire before the uace. Plentiful cans were at the same time distriuted among the dependencies of that principality; l the artful rival of Divito, observing them prefor enterprise, presented the lawful owner of ie ighbouring edifice, and showed his deputation er him. War immediately ensued upon the eaceful empire of Wit and the Muses; the Goths nd Vandals sacking Rome did not threaten a more arous devastation of arts and sciences. But they had forced their entrance, the expenced Divito had detached all his subjects, and evaed all his stores. The neighbouring inhabitants sport, that the refuse of Divito's followers marched the night before, disguised in magnificence; r-keepers came out clad like cardinals, and ne-drawers like heathen gods. Divito himself wrapped up in one of his black clouds, and left o the enemy nothing but an empty stage, full of rap-doors, known only to himself and his adherents.

From my own Apartment, November 25.

I have already taken great pains to inspire notions f honour and virtue into the people of this kingom, and used all gentle methods imaginable, to ri those who are dead in idleness, folly, and e, into life, by applying themselves to learn, wisdom, and industry. But, since fair means ineffectual, I must proceed to extremities, and I give my good friends, the company of up-

holders, full power to bury all such dead as they meet with, who are within my former description of deceased persons. In the mean time the following remonstrance of that corporation I take to be very just.

" *From our Office near the Hay-market, Nov.* 23.

" WORTHY SIR,

" Upon reading your Tatler on Saturday last, by which we received the agreeable news of so many deaths, we immediately ordered in a considerable quantity of blacks; and our servants have wrought night and day ever since, to furnish out the necessaries for these deceased. But so it is, Sir, of this vast number of dead bodies, that go putrifying up and down the streets, not one of them will come to us to be buried. Though we should be loth to be any hindrance to our good friends the physicians, yet we cannot but take notice what infection her Majesty's subjects are liable to from the horrible stench of so many corpses. Sir, we will not detain you; our case in short is this: when we embarked in this undertaking for the public good: now, if people should be suffered to go on unburied at this rate, there is an end of the use fullest manufactures and handicrafts of the kingdom: for where will be your sextons, coffin-makers and plummers? what will become of your embalmers, epitaph-mongers, and chief mourners? We are loth to drive this matter any further, though we tremble at the consequences of it: for if it be left to every dead man's discretion not to be buried until he sees his time, no man can say when that will end; but thus much we will take upon us to affirm, that such a toleration will be intolerable.

" What would make us easy in this matter is no more, but that your worship would be pleased to

ssue out your orders to ditto Dead to repair forth-
with to our office, in order to their interment;
where constant attendance shall be given to treat
with all persons according to their quality, and the
poor to be buried for nothing: and for the conve-
nience of such persons as are willing enough to be
dead, but that they are afraid their friends and re-
lations should know it, we have a back-door into
Warwick-street, from whence they may be interred
h all secresy imaginable, and without loss of
or hindrance of business. But in case of ob-
nacy, for we would gladly make a thorough rid-
ance, we desire a further power from your wor-
ip, to take up such deceased as shall not have
complied with your first orders, wherever we meet
them: and if after that there shall be complaints of
ny persons so offending, let them lie at our doors.
We are your worship's until death,

"The master and company of UPHOLDERS.

"P. S. We are ready to give in our printed pro-
posals at large; and if your worship approves of our
undertaking, we desire the following advertisement
may be inserted in your next paper:

"Whereas a commission of interment has been
awarded against doctor John Partridge, *philomath*,
professor of physic and astrology; and whereas the
said Partridge hath not surrendered himself, nor
shown cause to the contrary; these are to certify,
that the company of Upholders will proceed to bury
him from Cordwainer's-hall, on Tuesday the twenty-
ninth instant, where any six of his surviving friends,
who still believe him to be alive, are desired to
come prepared to hold up the pall.

"Note; we shall light away at six in the evening,
there being to be a sermon."

N° 100. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1709.

Jam redit et Virgo, redeunt Saturnia regna.
VIRG. Ecl. IV. ver. 6.

Returning justice brings a golden age. R. W.

Sheer-lane, November 28.

I was last week taking a solitary walk in the
of Lincoln's-Inn (a favour that is indulged me
several of the benchers, who are my intimate f
and grown old with me in this neighbou
when, according to the nature of men in years,
have made but little progress in the advancem
their fortune or their fame, I was repining at
sudden rise of many persons who are my juni
and indeed at the unequal distribution of
honour, and all other blessings of life. I
in this thought, when the night came upon
drew my mind into a far more agreeable con
plation. The heaven above me appeared in su
glories, and presented me with such an hemis
of stars, as made the most agreeable prospect
ginable to one who delights in the study of
It happened to be a freezing night, which ha
rified the whole body of air into such a bright tra
parent æther, as made every constellation visil
and at the same time gave such a particular
to the stars, that I thought it the richest sky
ever seen. I could not behold a scene so wonder
fully adorned and lighted up, if I may be allow
that expression, without suitable meditations on
author of such illustrious and amazing objects: for

on these occasions, philosophy suggests motives to religion, and religion adds pleasure to philosophy.

As soon as I had recovered my usual temper and serenity of soul, I retired to my lodgings, with the vision of having passed away a few hours in the proper employments of a reasonable creature; promising myself that my slumbers would be sweet, I no sooner fell into them, but I dreamed a dream, or saw a vision, for I know not which to call it, that seemed to rise out of my evening meditation, and had something in it so solemn and sublime, that I cannot forbear communicating it: though I must confess, the wildness of imagination, which in a dream is always loose and irregular, discovers itself too much in several parts of it.

thought I saw the same azure sky diversified the same glorious luminaries which had entertained me a little before I fell asleep. I was looking very attentively on that sign in the heavens which is called by the name of the Balance, when, on a sudden, there appeared in it an extraordinary light, as if the sun should rise at midnight. By its increasing in breadth and lustre, I soon found that it approached towards the earth; and at length I discern something like a shadow hovering in the midst of a great glory, which in a little time after I distinctly perceived to be the figure of a man. I fancied at first it might have been the angel, or intelligence that guided the constellation from which it descended; but, upon a nearer view, I saw about her all the emblems with which the goddess of justice is usually described. Her countenance was unspeakably aweful and majestic, but exquisitely beautiful to those whose eyes were strong enough to behold it; her smiles transported me with rapture, her frowns terrified to despair. She

held in her hand a mirror, endowed with the same qualities as that which the painters put into the hand of truth.

There streamed from it a light, which distinguished itself from all the splendors that surrounded her, more than a flash of lightning shines in the midst of day-light. As she moved it in her hand, it brightened the heavens, the air, or the earth. When she had descended so low as to be seen and heard by mortals, to make the pomp of her appearance more supportable, she threw darkness and clouds about her, that tempered the light into a thousand beautiful shades and colours, and multiplied that lustre, which was before too strong and dazzling, into a variety of milder glories.

In the mean time, the world was in an alarm, and all the inhabitants of it gathered together upon a spacious plain; so that I seemed to have the whole species before my eyes. A voice was he from the clouds, declaring the intention of this which was to restore and appropriate to every living what was his due. The fear and hope, joy and sorrow, which appeared in that great assembly, after this solemn declaration, are not to be pressed. The first edict was then pronounc "That all titles and claims to riches and e s, to any part of them, should be immediately in the rightful owner." Upon this, the inhabi of the earth held up the instruments of their te whether in parchment, paper, wax, or any o form of conveyance; and as the goddess moved mirror of truth which she held in her hand, so was the light which flowed from it fell upon the multitude, they examined the several instruments by the beams of it. The rays of this mirror had a particular quality of setting fire to all forgery and falsehood. The blaze of papers, the melting of seals, and

crackling of parchments, made a very odd scene. The fire very often ran through two or three lines only, and then stopped. Though I could not but observe that the flames chiefly broke out among the interlineations and codicils; the light of the mirror, as it was turned up and down, pierced into all the dark corners and recesses of the universe, and by that means detected many writings and records which had been hidden or buried by time, chance, or design. This occasioned a wonderful revolution among the people. At the same time, the spoils of extortion, fraud, and robbery, with all the fruits of bribery and corruption, were thrown together into a prodigious pile, that almost reached to the clouds, and was called, "The mount of restitution;" to which all injured persons were invited, to receive what belonged to them.

One might see crowds of people in tattered garments come up, and change clothes with others that were dressed with lace and embroidery. Several who were *plums*, or very near it, became men of moderate fortunes; and many others, who were overgrown in wealth and possessions, had no more left than what they usually spent. What moved my concern most was, to see a certain street of the greatest credit in Europe from one end to the other become bankrupt.

The next command was, for the whole body of mankind to separate themselves into their proper families; which was no sooner done but an edict was issued out, requiring all children "to repair to their true and natural fathers." This put a great part of the assembly in motion; for as the mirror was moved over them, it inspired every one with such a natural instinct, as directed them to their real parents. It was a very melancholy spectacle to see the fathers of very large families become childless,

and bachelors undone by a charge of so
daughters. You might see a presumptive heir or a
great estate ask blessing of his coachman, and a ce-
lebrated toast paying her duty to a *valet de ch*
Many, under vows of celibacy, appeared surrou
with a numerous issue. This change of paren
would have caused great lamentation, but that
calamity was pretty common; and that gene
those who lost their children, had the satisfaction
seeing them put into the hands of their
friends. Men were no sooner settled in th
to their possessions and their progeny, but there
a third order proclaimed, "That all the p
dignity and honour in the universe should be con
ferred on persons of the greatest merit, abili
and perfection." The handsome, the strong,
the wealthy, immediately pressed forward;
not being able to bear the splendor of the mir
which played upon their faces, they immediately
back among the crowd: but as the goddess tried
multitude by her glass, as the eagle does its you
ones by the lustre of the sun, it was remarka
that every one turned away his face from it, w
had not distinguished himself either by vir
knowledge, or capacity in business, either mil
or civil. This select assembly was drawn up in
centre of a prodigious multitude, which was
fused on all sides, and stood observing them, as idl
people use to gather about a regiment that are
ercising their arms. They were drawn up in thre
bodies: in the first, were the men of virtue; in
second, men of knowledge; and in the third,
men of business. It was impossible to look at the hu
column without a secret veneration, their aspe
were so sweetened with humanity, raised with con
templation, emboldened with resolution, and adorn
with the most agreeable airs, which are th

proceed from secret habits of virtue. I could but take notice, that there were many faces) them which were unknown, not only to me ltitude, but even to several of their own ty.

In second column, consisting of the men of e, there had been great disputes before ren into the ranks, which they did not do at without the positive command of the goddess who presided over the assembly. She had so ordered it, that men of the greatest genius and st sense were placed at the head of the . Behind these were such as had formed minds very much on the thoughts and writings of others. In the rear of the column were men who had more wit than sense, or more learning than understanding. All living authors of any value were ranged in one of these classes; but I must confess, I was very much surprised to see a great body of editors, critics, commentators, and grammarians, meet with so very ill a reception. They had formed themselves into a body, and with a great deal of arrogance demanded the first station in the column of knowledge; but the goddess, instead of complying with their request, clapped them all into liveries, and bid them know themselves for no other but lacquies of the learned.

The third column were men of business, and consisting of persons in military and civil capacities. The former marched out from the rest, and placed themselves in the front; at which the others shook their heads at them, but did not think fit to dispute the post with them. I could not but make several observations upon this last column of people; but I have certain private reasons why I do not think fit to communicate them to the public. In order to fill

up all the posts of honour, dignity, and profi
there was a draught made out of each column
men who were masters of all three qualifica
in some degree, and were preferred to u
of the first rank. The second draught was ma
out of such as were possessed of any two of t
qualifications, who were disposed of in stati
of a second dignity. Those who were left,
were endowed only with one of them, had t
suitable posts. When this was over, there r
mained many places of trust and profit unfilled, f
which there were fresh draughts made out of t
surrounding multitude, who had any appearance
these excellencies, or were recommended by th
who possessed them in reality.

All were surprised to see so many new fac
in the most eminent dignities; and for my
part, I was very well pleased to see that all m
friends either kept their present posts, or were
vanced to higher.

Having filled my paper with those particulars
my vision which concern the male part of mank
I must reserve for another occasion the sequel of
which relates to the fair sex.

№ 101. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1709.

—— Postquam fregit subsellia versu,
Esurit intactam Paridi nisi vendat Agaven.
JUV. Sat. VII. 87.

But while the common suffrage crown'd his cause,
And broke the benches with their loud applause;
His muse had starv'd, had not a piece unread,
And by a player bought, supply'd her bread.
DRYDEN.

From my own Apartment, November 30.

THE progress of my intended account of what happened when justice visited mortals, is at present interrupted by the observation and sense of an injustice against which there is no remedy, even in a kingdom more happy in the care taken of the liberty and property of the subject, than any other nation upon earth. This iniquity is committed by a most impregnable set of mortals, men who are rogues within the law; and in the very commission of what they are guilty of, professedly own that they forbear no injury, but from the terror of being punished for it. These miscreants are a set of wretches whom authors call pirates, who print any book, poem, or sermon, as soon as it appears in the world, in a smaller volume; and sell it, as all other thieves do stolen goods, at a cheaper rate. I was in my rage calling them rascals, plunderers, robbers, highwaymen. But they acknowledge all that, and are pleased with those, as well as any other titles; nay, will print them themselves to turn the penny *.

* This paper seems to have been occasioned by a pirated edition of "The Lucubrations," which came out just at this time.

I am extremely at a loss how to act again open enemies, who have not shame enough to be touched with our reproaches, and are as well defended against what we can say as what we can do. Railing, therefore, we must turn into compla which I cannot forbear making, when I con that all the labours of my long life may be d pointed by the first man that pleases to rob me. I had flattered myself, that my stock of learning was worth a hundred and fifty pounds *per annum*, whi would very handsomely maintain me and my lit family, who are so happy, or so wise, as to v only necessaries. Before men had come up to t bare-faced impudence, it was an estate to have a competency of understanding.

An ingenious droll, who is since dead (and deed it is well for him he is so, for he must l starved had he lived to this day), used to give an account of his good husbandry in the i ment of his learning. He was a general dealer, had his amusements as well comical as The merry rogue said, "When he wanted a gu he writ a paragraph of Table Talk, and his bo seller upon sight paid the reckoning." He was very good judge of what would please the people, and could aptly hit both the genius of his rea and the season of the year, in his writings. brain, which was his estate, had as regular and d ferent produce as other men's land. From the be ginning of November until the opening of the campaign, he writ pamphlets and letters to members of parliament, or friends in the country. But sometimes he would relieve his ordinary readers with a murder, and lived comfortably a week or two upon "strange and lamentable accidents." A little before the armies took the field, his way was to open your attention with a prodigy; and a monster, well

writ, was two guineas the lowest price. This prepared his readers for his "great and bloody news" from Flanders, in June and July. Poor Tom! he is gone——But I observed he always looked well after a battle, and was apparently fatter in a fighting year. Had this honest careless fellow lived until now, famine had stared him in the face, and interrupted his merriment; as it must be a solid affliction to all those whose pen is their portion.

As for my part, I do not speak wholly for my own sake in this point; for palmistry and astrology will bring me in greater gains than these my papers; so that I am only in the condition of a lawyer, who leaves the bar for chamber-practice. However, I may be allowed to speak in the cause of learning itself, and lament that a liberal education is the only one which a polite nation makes unprofitable. All mechanical artizans are allowed to reap the fruit of their invention and ingenuity without invasion; but he that has separated himself from the rest of mankind, and studied the wonders of the creation, the government of his passions, and the revolutions of the world, and has an ambition to communicate the effect of half his life spent in such noble inquiries, has no property in what he is willing to produce, but is exposed to robbery and want, with this melancholy and just reflexion, that he is the only man who is not protected by his country, at the same time that he best deserves it. According to the ordinary rules of computation, the greater the adventure is, the greater ought to be the profit of those who succeed in it; and by this measure, none have pretence of turning their labours to greater advantage than persons brought up to letters. A learned education, passing through great schools and universities, is very expensive; and consumes a moderate fortune, before it is gone through in its proper

forms. The purchase of an handsome comm
or employment, which would give a man a
figure in another kind of life, is to be mad
much cheaper rate. Now, if we consider th
pensive voyage which is undertaken in the
of knowledge, and how few there are who t
any considerable merchandise, how less freq
is, to be able to turn what men have gaine
profit; how hard is it, that the very small n
who are distinguished with abilities to know
to vend their wares, and have the good fort
bring them into port, should suffer being plu
by privateers under the very cannon that shou
tect them! The most eminent and useful aut
the age we live in, after having laid out a pr
revenue in works of charity and beneficence,
came the greatness of his mind, and the sanc
his character, would have left the person
world who was the dearest to him in a narro
dition, had not the sale of his immortal w
brought her in a very considerable dowry; t
it was impossible for it to be equal to their
Every one will know, that I here mean the
of the late archbishop of Canterbury*, the c
which was sold for two thousand five hu
pounds.

I do not speak with relation to any party;
has happened, and may often so happen, tha
of great learning and virtue cannot qualify
selves for being employed in business, or rec
preferments. In this case, you cut them off
all support, if you take from them the benef
may arise from their writings. For my own
I have brought myself to consider things in
prejudiced a manner, that I esteem more

* Dr. John Tillotson.

n can live by the products of his understanding, nan one who does it by the favour of great men.

The zeal of an author has transported me thus though I think myself as much concerned in capacity of a reader. If this practice goes on, ve must never expect to see again a beautiful edition f a book in Great-Britain.

We have already seen the Memoirs of Sir William Temple, published in the same character and volume with the History of Tom Thumb, and the works of our greatest poets shrunk into penny-books and garlands. For my own part, I expect o : my Lucubrations printed on browner paper . they are at present, and, if the humour continues, must be forced to retrench my expensive way of living, and not smoke above two pipes a day.

*** Mr. Charles Lillie, perfumer, at the corner of Beaufort-Buildings, has informed me, that I am obliged to several of my customers for coming to his shop upon my recommendation; and has also given me further assurances of his upright dealing with all who shall be so kind as to make use of my name to him. I acknowledge this favour, and have, for the service of my friends, who frequent his shop, used the force of magical powers to add value to his wares. By my knowledge in the secret operations of nature, I have made his powders, perfumed and plain, have the same effect as love-powder, to all who are too much enamoured to do more than dress at their mistresses. His amber, orange-flower, musk, and civet-violet, put only into an handkerchief, shall have the same effect toward an honourable lover's wishes, as if he had been wrapped in his mother's smock. Wash-balls perfumed, camphired, and plain, shall restore complexions to that

degree, that a country fox-hunter, who uses them, shall, in a week's time, look with a courtly and affable paleness, without using the bagnio or cupping.

N. B. Mr. Lillie has snuffs, Barcelona, Seril, Musty, Plain, and Spanish, which may be taken by a young beginner without danger of sneezing.

Sheer-lane, Nov. 30.

†‡† Whereas several walking dead persons arrived within the bills of mortality, before and since the fifteenth instant, having been informed of my warrant given to the company of Upholders, and being terrified thereat, it not having been advertised that privilege or protection would be allowed, have resolved forthwith to retire to their several and respective abodes in the country, hoping thereby to elude any commission of interment that may issue out against them; and being informed of such their fallacious designs, I do hereby give notice, as well for the good of the public, as for the great veneration I have for the before-mentioned useful society, that a process is gone out against them; and that, in case of contempt, they may be found, or heard of, at most coffee-houses in and about Westminster.

I must desire my readers to help me out from time to time in the correction of these my Essays; for as a shaking hand does not always write legibly, the press sometimes prints one word for another; and when my paper is to be revised, I am perhaps so busy in observing the spots of the moon, that I have not time to find out the *errata* that are crept into my Lucubrations.

№ 102. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1709.

From my own Apartment, December 2.

A Continuation of the Vision.

The male world were dismissed by the goddess of
[illegible]ce, and disappeared, when on a sudden the whole
was covered with women. So charming a
[illegible]itude filled my heart with unspeakable pleasure;
[illegible]nd as the celestial light of the mirror shone upon
[illegible]r faces, several of them seemed rather persons
descended in the train of the goddess, than such
were brought before her to their trial. The
[illegible]k of tongues, and confusion of voices, in this
[illegible]ew assembly, were so very great, that the goddess
forced to command silence several times, and
[illegible]n some severity, before she could make them at-
[illegible]ive to her edicts. They were all sensible that the
important affair among woman-kind was then
[illegible]o be settled, which every one knows to be the point
[illegible]f *place*. This had raised innumerable disputes
them, and put the whole sex into a tumult.
[illegible]very [illegible]e produced her claim, and pleaded her pre-
[illegible]. *Birth, beauty, wit,* or *wealth,* were words,
[illegible]ru[illegible] in my ears from all parts of the plain.
[illegible]boasted of the merit of their husbands; others
[illegible]n [illegible]own power in governing them. Some pleaded
unspotted virginity; others their numerous issue.
[illegible]valued themselves as they were the mothers,
[illegible]others as they were the daughters, of considera-
persons. There was not a single accomplishment
[illegible]entioned, or unpractised. The whole congre-

gation was full of singing, dancing, tossing, ogling, squeaking, smiling, singing, fanning, frowning, and all those irresistible arts which women put in p - tice, to captivate the hearts of reasonable c The goddess, to end this dispute, caused it to be proclaimed, "that every one should take place according as she was more or less beautiful." T declaration gave great satisfaction to the whole sembly, which immediately bridled up, and app a in all its beauties. Such as believed the graceful in their motion found an occasion of ram back, advancing forward, or making a false , that they might show their persons in the m coming air. Such as had fine necks and b were wonderfully curious to look over the heads of the multitude, and observe the most distant parts of the assembly. Several clapt their hands on their foreheads, as helping their sight to look upon the glories that surrounded the goddess, but in reality to show fine hands and arms. The ladies were yet better pleased, when they heard "that, in the decision of this great controversy, each of them should be her own judge, and take her place according to her own opinion of herself, when she consulted her looking-glass."

The goddess then let down the mirror of truth in a golden chain, which appeared larger in proportion as it descended and approached nearer to the eyes of the beholders. It was the particular property of this looking-glass, to banish all false appearances, and show people what they are. The whole woman was represented, without regard to the usual external features, which were made entirely conformable to their real characters. In short, the most accomplished, taking in the whole circle of female perfections, were the most beautiful; and the most defective, the most deformed. The goddess so varied

)ti of the glass, and placed it in so many ıghts, that each had an opportunity of eeing nerself in it.

It is impossible to describe the rage, the pleasure, ır astonishment, that appeared in each face upon its epresentation in the mirror; multitudes started at heir own form, and would have broke the glass if hey could have reached it. Many saw their bloom- features wither as they looked upon them, and : self-admiration turned into a loathing and ab- rence. The lady who was thought so agreeable · anger, and was so often celebrated for a wo- n of fire and spirit, was frightened at her own and fancied she saw a Fury in the glass. The ıı. ɔd mistress beheld a Harpy, and the subtle lt a ɔphinx. I was very much troubled in my own e , to see such a destruction of fine faces; but at same time had the pleasure of seeing several im- roved, which I had before looked upon as the great- master-piece of nature. I observed, that some w were so humble as to be surprised at their own arms, and that many a one, who had lived in the rement and severity of a Vestal, shined forth in the graces and attractions of a Siren. I was ra- ed at the sight of a particular image in the mir- r, which I think the most beautiful object that my es ever beheld. There was something more than in her countenance: her eyes were so full of ı ı t they seemed to beautify every thing they ɯed upon. Her face was enlivened with such a rid bloom, as did not so properly seem the mark health, as of immortality. Her shape, her stature, d her mien, were such as distinguished her even ere, where the whole fair sex was assembled.

I was impatient to see the lady represented by so ine an image, whom I found to be the person stood at my right hand, and in the same point

of view with myself. This was a little old v
who in her prime had been about five feet
though at present shrunk to about three qua
that measure. Her natural aspect was puckered
with wrinkles, and her head covered with grav h
I had observed all along an innocent ch ne
her face, which was now heightened to ra
she beheld herself in the glass. It was an
cumstance in my dream, but I cannot forbear
ing it, I conceived so great an inclination tov
her, that I had thoughts of discoursing her upon
point of marriage, when on a sudden she v
from me; for the word was now given, that
were pleased with their own images should se
and place themselves at the head of their sex.

This detachment was afterwards divided into
bodies, consisting of maids, wives, and widows;
wives being placed in the middle, with the
on the right, and widows on the left, though it wa
with difficulty that these two last bodies were
dered from falling into the centre. This separ
of those who liked their real selves not havi
sened the number of the main body so co
as it might have been wished, the goddess, after hav
ing drawn up her mirror, thought fit to make
distinctions among those who did not like the
which they saw in it. She made several whol
edicts, which are slipped out of my mind; but
were two which dwelt upon me, as being very
traordinary in their kind, and executed with g
severity. Their design was to make an example o
two extremes in the female world; of those who
very severe on the conduct of others, and of th
who are very regardless of their own. The first
tence, therefore, the goddess pronounced was,
all females addicted to censoriousness and detractio
should lose the use of speech; a punishment wh

would be the most grievous to the offender, and, what should be the end of all punishments, effectual for rooting out the crime. Upon this edict, which was as soon executed as published, the noise of the assembly very considerably abated. It was a melancholy spectacle to see so many who had the reputation of rigid virtue struck dumb. A lady who stood by me, and saw my concern, told me, "she wondered how I could be concerned for such a pack of ——." I found, by the shaking of her head, she was going to give me their characters; but, by her saying no more, I perceived she had lost the command of her tongue. This calamity fell very heavy upon that part of women who are distinguished by the name of Prudes, a courtly word for female hypocrites, who have a short way to being virtuous, by showing that others are vicious. The second sentence was then pronounced against the loose part of the sex, that all should immediately be pregnant, who in any part of their lives had run the hazard of it. This produced a very goodly appearance, and revealed so many misconducts, that made those who were lately struck dumb repine more than ever at their want of utterance; though at the same time, as afflictions seldom come single, many of the mutes were also seized with this new calamity. The ladies were now in such a condition, that they would have wanted room, had not the plain been large enough to let them divide their ground, and extend their lines on all sides. It was a sensible affliction to me, to see such a multitude of fair ones, either dumb or big-bellied. But I was something more at ease, when I found that they agreed upon several regulations to cover such misfortunes. Among others, that it should be an established maxim in all nations, that a woman's first child might come into the world within six months after her acquaintance with her husband;

and that grief might retard the birth of her last u fourteen months after his decease.

This vision lasted until my usual hour of waking, which I did with some surprise, to find myself alone after having been engaged almost a whole night in so prodigious a multitude. I could not but reflect with wonder at the partiality and extravagance of my vision; which, according to my thoughts, has not done justice to the sex. If virtue in men is more venerable, it is in women more lovely; which Milton has very finely expressed in his Paradise Lost, where Adam, speaking of Eve, after having asserted his own pre-eminence, as being first in creation and internal faculties, breaks out into the following rapture:

——" Yet when I approach
Her loveliness, so absolute she seems,
And in herself complete, so well to know
Her own, that what she wills, or do, or say,
Seems wisest, virtuousest, discreetest, best.
All higher knowledge in her presence falls
Degraded, wisdom in discourse with her
Loses discountenanc'd, and like folly shews,
Authority and reason on her wait
As one intended first, not after made
Occasionally. And, to consummate all,
Greatness of mind, and nobleness, their seat
Build in her loveliest, and create an awe
About her, as a guard angelic plac'd."

№ 103. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1709.

——Hæc nugæ seria ducunt
In mala, derisum semel, exceptumque sinistre.
HOR. Ars Poet. ver. 452.

These toys will once to serious mischiefs fall,
When he is laugh'd at, when he's jeer'd by all.
CREECH.

From my own Apartment, December 5.

THERE is nothing gives a man a greater satisfaction, than the sense of having dispatched a great deal of business, especially when it turns to the public emolument. I have much pleasure of this kind upon my spirits at present, occasioned by the fatigue of affairs which I went through last Saturday. It is some time since I set apart that day for examining the pretensions of several who had applied to me for canes, perspective-glasses, snuff-boxes, orange-flower-waters, and the like ornaments of life. In order to adjust this matter, I had before directed Charles Lillie of Beaufort-Buildings, to prepare a great bundle of blank licences in the following words:

"You are hereby required to permit the bearer of this cane to pass and repass through the streets and suburbs of London, or any place within ten miles of it, without let or molestation, provided that he does not walk with it under his arm, brandish it in the air, or hang it on a button: in which case it shall be forfeited; and I hereby declare it forfeited,

to any one who shall think it safe to take it f him.

" Isaac Bickerstaff."

The same form, differing only in the provisos, will serve for a perspective, snuff-box, or perfumed handkerchief. I had placed myself in my elbow-chair at the upper end of my great parlour, having ordered Charles Lillie to take his place upon a joint-stool, with a writing-desk before him. John Morphew also took his station at the door; I having, for his good and faithful services, appointed him my chamber-keeper upon court-days. He let me know, that there was a great number attending without. Upon which I ordered him to give notice, that I did not intend to sit upon snuff-boxes that day; but that those who appeared for canes might enter. The first presented me with the following petition, which I ordered Mr. Lillie to read.

" To Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire, Censor of Great Britain.

" The humble petition of Simon Trippit,

" Sheweth,

" That your petitioner having been bred up to a cane from his youth, it is now become as necessary to him as any other of his limbs.

" That, a great part of his behaviour depending upon it, he should be reduced to the utmost necessities if he should lose the use of it.

" That the knocking of it upon his shoe, leaning one leg upon it, or whistling with it on his mouth, are such great reliefs to him in conversation, that he does not know how to be good company without it.

" That he is at present engaged in an amour, and must despair of success if it be taken from him.

"Your petitioner, therefore, hopes, that, the premises tenderly considered, your worship will not deprive him of so useful and so necessary a support.

"And your petitioner shall ever, &c."

Upon the hearing of this case, I was touched with some compassion, and the more so, when, upon observing him nearer, I found he was a *prig*. I bid him produce his cane in court, which he had left at the door. He did so, and I finding it to be very curiously clouded with a transparent amber head, and a blue ribband to hang upon his wrist, I immediately ordered my clerk Lillie to lay it up, and deliver out to him a plain joint, headed with walnut; and then in order to wean him from it by degrees, permitted him to wear it three days in a week, and to abate proportionably until he found himself able to go alone.

The second who appeared came limping into the court: and setting forth in his petition many pretences for the use of a cane, I caused them to be examined one by one; but finding him in different stories, and confronting him with several witnesses who had seen him walk upright, I ordered Mr. Lillie to take in his cane, and rejected his petition as frivolous.

A third made his entry with great difficulty leaning upon a slight stick, and in danger of falling every step he took. I saw the weakness of his hams; and hearing that he had married a young wife about a fortnight before, I bid him leave his cane, and gave him a new pair of crutches, with which he went off in great vigour and alacrity. This gentleman was succeeded by another, who seemed very much pleased while his petition was reading, in which he had represented, That he was extremely afflicted with the gout, and set his foot upon the ground with the

caution and dignity which accompany that distem
I suspected him for an impostor, and having o
him to be searched, I committed him into the
of doctor Thomas Smith in King-street, my own
corn-cutter, who attended in an outward room,
wrought so speedy a cure upon him, that I thc
fit to send him also away without his cane.

While I was thus dispensing justice, I
noise in my outward room; and inquiring w
the occasion of it, my door-keeper told me,
they had taken one up in the very fact as he
passing by my door. They immediately brought
lively fresh-coloured young man, who made
resistance with hand and foot, but did not o
make use of his cane, which hung upon his
button. Upon examination, I found him to be
Oxford-scholar, who was just entered at the Tem
He at first disputed the jurisdiction of the c
but, being driven out of his little law and lo
me told me very pertly, "that he looked upon such a perpendicular creature as man to make a very imperfect figure without a cane in his hand. It is well known," says he, "we ought, according to the natural situation of our bodies, to walk upon our hands and feet; and that the wisdom of the ancients had described man to be an animal of four legs in the morning, two at noon, and three at night; by which they intimated, that the cane might very properly become part of us in some period of life." Upon which I asked him, "whether he wore it at his breast to have it in readiness when that period should arrive?" My young lawyer immediately told me, "he had a property in it, and a right to hang it where he pleased, and to make use of it as he thought fit, provided that he did not break the peace with it;" and further said, "that he never took it off his button, unless it were to lift it up at a coachman, bold

ıe head of a drawer, point out the circum-
of a story, or for other services of the like
:hat are all within the laws of the land." I
:are for discouraging a young man, who, I
uld come to good; and, because his heart
upon his new purchase, I only ordered him
it about his neck, instead of hanging it upon
ın, and so dismissed him.

were several appeared in court, whose pre-
I found to be very good, and, therefore,
:m their licences upon paying their fees; as
bers had their licences renewed, who re-
ıore time for recovery of their lameness than
:fore allowed them.

ıg dispatched this set of my petitioners, there
ı a well-dressed man, with a glass tube in
d, and his petition in the other. Upon his
; the room, he *threw back the right side of his*
it forward his right leg, and advancing the
his right eye, aimed it directly at me. In
while, to make my observations also, I
ny spectacles; in which posture we surveyed
ıer for some time. Upon the removal of our
I desired him to read his petition, which he
/ promptly and easily; though at the same
set forth, "that he could see nothing dis-
and was within very few degrees of being
blind;" concluding with a prayer, "that he
ɔe permitted to strengthen and extend his
y a glass." In answer to this, I told him,
ight sometimes extend it to his own destruc-
As you are now," said I, "you are out of
:h of beauty; the shafts of the finest eyes
ir force before they can come at you; you
distinguish a Toast from an orange-wench;
ın see a whole circle of beauty without any
ɔtion from an impertinent face to discompose

you. In short, what are snares for others—" My petitioner would hear no more, but told me very seriously, " Mr. Bickerstaff, you quite mistake your man; it is the joy, the pleasure, the employment of my life to frequent public assemblies, and gaze upon the fair." In a word, I found his use of a gl was occasioned by no other infirmity but his , and was not so much designed to make h see, to make him be seen and distinguished by ou a therefore refused him a licence for a perspecu but allowed him a pair of spectacles, with fi mission to use them in any public assembly should think fit. He was followed by so very ew of this order of men, that I have reason to hope sort of cheats is almost at an end.

The orange-flower-men appeared next with tions, perfumed so strongly with musk, tl a almost overcome with the scent; and for a sake was obliged forthwith to licence their l chiefs, especially when I found they had swee a them at Charles Lillie's, and that some of their sons would not be altogether inoffensive w them. John Morphew, whom I have made the neral of my dead men, acquainted me, " tl petitioners were all of that order, and could produce certificates to prove it, if I required it." I was so well pleased with this way of their embalming themselves, that I commanded the abovesaid Morphew to give it in his orders to his whole army, that every one, who did not surrender himself up to be disposed of by the upholders, should use the same method to keep himself sweet during his present state of putrefaction.

I finished my session with great content of mind, reflecting upon the good I had done; for however slightly men may regard these particulars, and little follies in dress and behaviour, they lead to

greater evils. The bearing to be laughed at for such singularities, teaches us insensibly an impertinent fortitude, and enables us to bear public censure for things which more substantially deserve it. By this means they open a gate to folly, and oftentimes render a man so ridiculous, as to discredit his virtues and capacities, and unqualify them from doing any good in the world. Besides, the giving into uncommon habits of this nature, is a want of that humble deference which is due to mankind, and, what is worst of all, the certain indication of some secret flaw in the mind of the person that commits them. When I was a young man, I remember a gentleman of great integrity and worth was very remarkable for wearing a broad belt, and a hanger instead of a fashionable sword, though in all other points a very well-bred man. I suspected him at first sight to have something wrong in him, but was not able for a long while to discover any collateral proofs of it. I watched him narrowly for six-and-thirty years, when at last, to the surprise of every body but myself, who had long expected to see the folly break out, he married his own cook-maid.

N° 104. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1709.

——*Garrit aniles*
Ex re fabellas—— HOR. 2. Sat. vi. 78.

He tells an old wife's tale very pertinently.

From my own Apartment, December 7.

My brother Tranquillus being gone out of town for some days, my sister Jenny sent me word she come and dine with me, and therefore c have no other company. I took care accordingly, was not a little pleased to see her enter the r with a decent and matron-like behaviour, which thought very much became her. I saw she had a great deal to say to me, and easily discovered in eyes, and the air of her countenance, that abundance of satisfaction in her heart, wh longed to communicate. However I was re to let her break into her discourse her own way, reduced her to a thousand little devices and in tions to bring me to the mention of her hus But, finding I was resolved not to name him, she began of her own accord. "My husband," said she, "gives his humble service to you," to which I only answered, "I hope he is well;" and without waiting for a reply, fell into other subjects. She at last was out of all patience, and said, with a smile and manner that I thought had more beauty and spirit than I had ever observed before in her, "I did not think, brother, you had been so ill-natured. You have seen, ever since I came in, that I had a

to talk of my husband, and you will not be so
s to give me an occasion."—" I did not know,"
, " but it might be a disagreeable subject to
You do not take me for so old-fashioned a
as to think of entertaining a young lady with
iscourse of her husband. I know, nothing is
acceptable than to speak of one who is to be
ut to speak of one who is so! indeed, Jenny,
a better bred man than you think me." She
d a little dislike at my raillery; and by her
ig up, I perceived she expected to be treated
ter not as Jenny Distaff, but Mrs. Tranquillus.
very well pleased with this change in her hu-
, and, upon talking with her on several subjects,
ld not but fancy that I saw a great deal of her
nd's way and manner in her remarks, her
es, the tone of her voice, and the very air of
ountenance. This gave me an unspeakable sa-
tion, not only because I had found her an hus-
from whom she could learn many things that
laudable, but also because I looked upon her
tion of him as an infallible sign that she entirely
him. This is an observation that I never knew
though I do not remember that any other has
it. The natural shyness of her sex hindered
om telling me the greatness of her own passion;
easily collected it from the representation she
me of his. " I have every thing," says she,
Tranquillus, that I can wish for; and enjoy in
what indeed you have told me were to be met
in a good husband, the fondness of a lover, the
rness of a parent, and the intimacy of a friend."
nsported me to see her eyes swimming in tears
ection when she spoke. " And is there not,
sister," said I, " more pleasure in the posses-
of such a man, than in all the little imperti-
ies of balls, assemblies, and equipage, which

it cost me so much pains to make you co
She answered, smiling, "Tranquillus has n
a sincere convert in a few weeks, though I
afraid you could not have done it in your
life. To tell you truly, I have only one fear hang
ing upon me, which is apt to give me trouble
midst of all my satisfactions: I am afraid, you
know, that I shall not always make the same amia
ble appearance in his eye that I do at present. I
know, brother Bickerstaff, that you have the
tation of a conjurer; and if you have any one
in your art to make your sister always beauti
should be happier than if I were mistress of an
worlds you have shown me in a starry night."
"Jenny," said I, "without having recourse
magic, I shall give you one plain rule, that will
fail of making you always amiable to a
has so great a passion for you, and is of so
reasonable a temper as Tranquillus. End
please, and you must please; be always in
disposition as you are when you ask for this secre
and you may take my word, you will never want it
An inviolable fidelity, good humour, and
cency of temper, outlive all the charms of a
face, and make the decays of it invisible."

We discoursed very long upon this h , wh
was equally agreeable to us both; for I
fess, as I tenderly love her, I take as
sure in giving her instructions for her wea , a
she herself does in receiving them. I proc ed
therefore, to inculcate these sentiments, by relatin
a very particular passage that happened within m
own knowledge.

There were several of us making merry at
friend's house in a country village, when the se
of the parish-church entered the room in a
surprise, and told us, "that as he was

grave in the chancel, a little blow of his pick-axe opened a decayed coffin, in which there were several written papers." Our curiosity was immediately raised, so that we went to the place where the sexton had been at work, and found a great concourse of people about the grave. Among the rest, there was an old woman, who told us, the person buried there was a lady whose name I do not think fit to mention, though there is nothing in the story but what tends very much to her honour*. This lady lived several years an exemplary pattern of conjugal love, and, dying soon after her husband, who every way answered her character in virtue and affection, made it her death-bed request, "that all the letters which she had received from him both before and after her marriage should be buried in the coffin with her." These I found, upon examination, were the papers before us. Several of them had suffered so much by time, that I could only pick out a few words; as *my soul! lilies! roses! dearest angel!* and the like. One of them, which was legible throughout, ran thus.

"MADAM,

"If you would know the greatness of my love, consider that of your own beauty. That blooming countenance, that snowy bosom, that graceful person, return every moment to my imagination: the brightness of your eyes hath hindered me from closing mine since I last saw you. You may still add to your beauties by a smile. A frown will make me the most wretched of men, as I am the most passionate of lovers."

* A son of Sir Thomas Chicheley, one of king William's admirals, assured the very respectable communicator of this note, that the lady here alluded to was his mother, and that the letters were genuine.

It filled the whole company with a deep m cholv to compare the description of the lette the person that occasioned it, who was now re to a few crumbling bones and a little mould heap of earth. With much ado I decyphered ther letter, which began with, " My dear, wife." This gave me a curiosity to see ho style of one written in marriage differed fr written in courtship. To my surprise, I fou fondness rather augmented than lessened, thou panegyric turned upon a different accomplish The words were as follow:

" Before this short absence from you, I d know that I loved you so much as I reall though, at the same time, I thought I loved much as possible. I am under great appreh lest you should have any uneasiness whilst I frauded of my share in it, and cannot th tasting any pleasures that you do not partak me. Pray, my dear, be careful of your he for no other reason, but because you know not outlive you. It is natural in absence t professions of an inviolable constancy; but t so much merit, it is scarce a virtue, especiall it is but a bare return to that of which yo given me such continued proofs ever since o acquaintance. I am," &c.

It happened that the daughter of these t cellent persons was by when I was readi letter. At the sight of the coffin, in which body of her mother, near that of her fath melted into a flood of tears. As I had great character of her virtue, and observed this instance of filial piety, I could not re natural inclination of giving advice to young and therefore addressed myself to her. "

lady," said I, "you see how short is the possession of that beauty, in which nature has been so liberal to you. You find the melancholy sight before you is a contradiction to the first letter that you heard on that subject; whereas you may observe the second letter, which celebrates your mother's constancy, is itself, being found in this place, an argument of it. But, Madam, I ought to caution you not to think the bodies that lie before you your father and your mother. Know, their constancy is rewarded by a nobler union than by this mingling of their ashes, in a state where there is no danger or possibility of a second separation."

N° 105. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1709.

Sheer-lane, December 9.

As soon as my midnight studies are finished, I take but a very short repose, and am again up at an exercise of another kind; that is to say, my fencing. Thus my life passes away in a restless pursuit of fame, and a preparation to defend myself against such as attack it. This anxiety in the point of reputation is the peculiar distress of fine spirits, and makes them liable to a thousand inquietudes, from which men of grosser understandings are exempt; so that nothing is more common, than to see one part of mankind live at perfect ease under such circumstances as would make another part of them entirely miserable.

This may serve for a preface to the h ory poor Will Rosin, the fidler of Wapping, v man as much made for happiness and a quies n as any one breathing; but has been lately enta in so many intricate and unreasonable d , would have made him, had he been a n nice honour, the most wretched of all mor . came to the knowledge of his affairs by mere dent. Several of the narrow end of our lane ing made an appointment to visit some fr yond Saint Katharine's, where there was o merry meeting, they would needs take with the old gentleman, as they are pleased to cal I who value my company by their good-will, whi naturally has the same effect as good-breeding, v not too stately, or too wise, to accept of the in tation. Our design was to be spectators of a s ball; to which I readily consented, provided might be *incognito*, being naturally pleased v the survey of human life in all its degrees and cumstances. In order to this merriment, W Rosin, who is the Corelli of the *Wapping* side, Tom Scrape is the Bononcini of *Redriffe*, was i mediately sent for; but, to our utter disapp ment, poor Will was under an arrest, and c the assistance of all his kind masters and mist or he must go to gaol. The whole company r ceived his message with great humanity, and generously threw in their *half-pence a-piece* in great dish, which purchased his redemption c the hands of the bailiffs. During the negotia for his enlargement, I had an opportunity of quainting myself with his history.

Mr. William Rosin, of the parish of Saint K tharine, is somewhat stricken in years, and ried to a young widow, who has very much ascendant over him; this degenerate age being

perverted in all things, that, even in the state of matrimony, the young pretend to govern their elders. The musician is extremely fond of her; but is often obliged to lay by his fiddle, to hear louder notes of hers, when she is pleased to be angry with him: for you are to know, Will is not of consequence enough to enjoy her conversation but when she chides him, or makes use of him to carry on her amours: for she is a woman of stratagem; and even in that part of the world, where one would expect but very little gallantry, by the force of natural genius, she can be sullen, sick, out of humour, splenetic, want new cloaths, and more money, as well as if she had been bred in Cheapside or Cornhill. She was lately under a secret discontent, upon account of a lover she was like to lose by his marriage; for her gallant, Mr. Ezekiel Boniface, had been twice asked in the church, in order to be joined in matrimony with Mrs. Winifred Dimple, spinster, of the same parish. Hereupon Mrs. Rosin was far gone in that distemper which well-governed husbands know by the description of, "I am I know not how;" and Will soon understood that it was his part to inquire into the occasion of her melancholy, or suffer as the cause of it himself. After much importunity, all he could get out of her was, "that she was the most unhappy and the most wicked of all women, and had no friend in the world to tell her grief to." Upon this, Will doubled his importunities; but she said, "that she should break her poor heart, if he did not take a solemn oath upon a book, that he would not be angry; and that he would expose the person who had wronged her to all the world, for the ease of her mind, which was no way else to be quieted." The fidler was so melted, that he immediately kissed her, and afterwards the book. When his

oath was taken, she began to lament herself, revealed to him, "That, miserable woman as was, she had been false to his bed." Will glad to hear it was no worse; but, before he co reply, "Nay," said she, "I will make you all the atonement I can, and take shame upon me, by claiming it to all the world, which is the only that can remove my present terrors of mind." was indeed too true, for her design was to Mr. Boniface's marriage, which was all she hended. Will was thoroughly angry, and b curse and swear, the ordinary expressions of in persons of his condition. Upon which his wife— "Ah, William! how well you mind the oath have taken, and the distress of your poor wife, can keep nothing from you! I hope you will be such a perjured wretch as to forswear yo The fidler answered, "That his oath obl only not to be angry at what had passed; but I you intend to make me laughed at all over Wapping."—"No, no," replied Mrs. Rosin, "I well enough what you would be at, you p spirited cuckold! You are afraid to expose Boniface who has abused your poor wife, and would fain persuade me still to suffer the stings of conscience; but I assure you, sirrah, I will not go to the devil for you." Poor Will was not made for contention, and, beseeching her to be pacified, desired "she would consult the good of her soul her own way, for he would not say her nay in any thing."

Mrs. Rosin was so very loud and public in her invectives against Boniface, that the parents of his mistress forbad the banns, and his match was prevented, which was the whole design of this deep stratagem. The father of Boniface brought his action of defamation, arrested the fidler, and recovered damages. This was the distress fo

ch he was relieved by the company; and the
d husband's air, history, and jollity upon his en-
ement, gave occasion to very much mirth; es-
lly when Will, finding he had friends to stand
proclaimed himself a cuckold, by way of
; over the family of the Bonifaces. Here is a
of tranquillity without reading Seneca! What
k had such an incident made among persons of
ion! The brothers and kindred of each side
nave been drawn out, and hereditary hatred
ued on the families as long as their very names
d in the world. Who would believe that
u, Othello, and Will Rosin, were of the same
es?

nere are quite different sentiments which reign
he parlour and the kitchen; and it is by the
nt of honour, when justly regulated, and invio-
ly observed, that some men are superior to others,
nuch as mankind in general are to brutes. This
s me in mind of a passage in the admirable poem
ed "The Dispensary," where the nature of true
iour is artfully described in an ironical dispraise
t:

"But ere we once engage in honour's cause,
First know what honour is, and whence it was.
Scorn'd by the base, 'tis courted by the brave,
The hero's tyrant, and the coward's slave.
Born in the noisy camp, it lives on air;
And both exists by hope, and by despair.
Angry whene'er a moment's ease we gain,
And reconcil'd at our returns of pain.
It lives when in death's arms the hero lies,
But when his safety he consults, it dies.
Bigoted to this idol, we disclaim
Rest, health, and ease, for nothing but a name."

*** A very odd fellow visited me to-day at my
lgings, and desired encouragement and recom-

mendation from me for a new invention of kno
to doors, which he told me he had m
fessed to teach rustic servants the or
desired him to show me an experiment of
vention; upon which he fixed one of his k
to my parlour-door. He then gave me a
set of knocks, from the solitary rap of the
beggar, to the thunderings of the saucy fo
quality, with several flourishes and rat
yet performed. He likewise played over
vate notes, distinguishing the familiar
relation from the most modish visitor; and
when the reserve candles are to be lighted.
several other curiosities in his art. He w
to receive my approbation of the
is now ready to practise to such as
selves to him; but I have put
until next court-day.

N. B. He teaches under ground.

N° 106. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 17

Invenies dissecti membra poetæ.
HOR. 1. Sat. IV.

You will find the limbs of a dismember'd poet.

Will's Coffee-house, December 12.

I WAS this evening sitting at the side-tab
reading one of my own papers with gr
faction, not knowing that I was observed by an

the room. I had not long enjoyed this secret pleasure of an author, when a gentleman, some of whose works I have been highly entertained with, accosted me after the following manner. "Mr. Bickerstaff, you know I have for some years devoted myself wholly to the Muses, and, perhaps, you will be surprised when I tell you I am resolved to take up, and apply myself to business. I shall, therefore, beg you will stand my friend, and recommend a customer to me for several goods that I have now upon my hands."—I desired him to *let me have a particular**, and I would do my utmost to serve him.—"I have, first of all," says he, "the progress of an amour digested into sonnets, beginning with a poem to the unknown fair, and ending with an *epithalamium*. I have celebrated in it her cruelty, her pity, her face, her shape, her wit, her good humour, her dancing, her singing"——I could not forbear interrupting him; "This is a most accomplished lady," said I; "but has she really, with all these perfections, a fine voice?"—"Pugh," says he, "you do not believe there is such a person in nature. This was only my employment in solitude last summer, when I had neither friends nor books to divert me."—"I was going," said I, "to ask her name, but I find it is only an imaginary mistress."—"That's true," replied my friend, "but her name is Flavia. I have," continued he, "in the second place, a collection of lampoons, calculated either for the Bath, Tunbridge, or any place where they drink waters, with blank spaces, for the names of such person or persons as may be inserted in them on occasion. Thus much I have told only of what I have by me, proceeding from love and malice. I have also at this time the

* The technical phrase of an auctioneer.

sketch of an heroic poem upon the next peace: several, indeed, of the verses are either too long or too short, it being a rough draught of my thoughts upon that subject." I thereupon told him, "That, as it was, it might probably pass for a very good Pindaric, and I believed I knew one who would be willing to deal with him for it upon that foot." "I must tell you also," said he, "I have made a dedication to it, which is about four sides close written, that may serve any one that is tall, and understands Latin. I have further, about fifty similies, that were never yet applied, besides three-and-twenty descriptions of the sun rising, that might be of great use to an epic poet. These are my more bulky commodities: besides which, I have several small wares that I would part with at easy rates; as, observations upon life, and moral sentences, reduced into several couplets, very proper to close up acts of plays, and may be easily introduced by two or three lines of prose, either in tragedy or comedy. If I could find a purchaser curious in Latin poetry, I could accommodate him with two dozen of epigrams, which, by reason of a few false quantities, should come for little, or nothing."

I heard the gentleman with much attention, and asked him, "Whether he would break bulk, and sell his goods by retail, or designed they should all go in a lump?" He told me, "That he should be very loth to part them, unless it was to oblige a man of quality, or any person for whom I had a particular friendship."—"My reason for asking," said I, "is, only because I know a young gentleman who intends to appear next spring in a new *jingling* chariot, with the figures of the nine Muses on each side of it; and, I believe, would be glad to come into the world in verse." We could not go on in our treaty, by reason of two or three critics that

ined us. They had been talking, it seems, of the o letters which were found in the coffin, and ntioned in one of my late Lucubrations, and with a request to me, that I would commu- any others of them that were legible. One of e gentlemen was pleased to say, that it was a very er instance of a widow's constancy, and said, he wished I had subjoined, as a foil to it, the fol- wing passage in Hamlet." The young prince was t yet acquainted with all the guilt of his mother, it turns his thoughts on her sudden forgetfulness his father, and the indecency of her hasty mar- ge.

———That it should come to this!
But two months dead! nay, not so much, not two!
So excellent a King! that was, to this,
Hyperion to a satyr: so loving to my mother,
That he might not let e'en the winds of Heaven
Visit her face too roughly. Heaven and earth!
Must I remember? Why she would hang on him,
As if increase of appetite had grown
By what it fed on: and yet, within a month!
Let me not think on't—Frailty, thy name is Woman!
A little month! or ere those shoes were old,
With which she follow'd my poor father's body,
Like Niobe, all tears! —why she, even she,
O Heaven! a brute, that wants discourse of reason,
Would have mourn'd longer—married with mine uncle:
My father's brother! but no more like my father,
Than I to Hercules. Within a month!
Ere yet the salt of most unrighteous tears
Had left the flushing in her gauled eyes,
She married—O most wicked speed, to post
With such dexterity to incestuous sheets!
It is not, nor it cannot come to, good.
But, break, my heart, for I must hold my tongue!

The several emotions of mind, and breaks of assion, in this speech, are admirable. He has uched every circumstance that aggravated the fact,

and seemed capable of hurrying the thoughts of
son into distraction. His father's tenderness for
mother, expressed in so delicate a particular;
mother's fondness for his father, no less exqui
described; the great and amiable figure of his
parent drawn by a true filial piety; his disdain
so unworthy a successor to his bed; but, above
the shortness of the time between his father's de
and his mother's second marriage, brought to
with so much disorder, make up as noble a
any in that celebrated tragedy. The circu
of time I never could enough admire. The
hood had lasted two months. This is his firs
flexion: but, as his indignation rises, he sinks
scarce two months: afterwards into a month; a
at last, into a little month: but all this so natural
that the reader accompanies him in the violence
his passion, and finds the time lessen insensibl
according to the different workings of his disda
I have not mentioned the incest of her marri
which is so obvious a provocation; but cannot
bear taking notice, that when his fury is at
height, he cries, "Frailty, thy name is Woman
as railing at the sex in general, rather than givi
himself leave to think his mother worse th
others——*Desiderantur multa.*

*** Whereas Mr. Jeffery Groggram has sur
dered himself, by his letter bearing date Dece
ber 7, and has sent an acknowledgement that he
dead, praying an order to the company of U
holders for interment at such a reasonable rate
may not impoverish his heirs: the said Groggra
having been dead ever since he was born, a
added nothing to his small patrimony; Mr. Bicke
staff has taken the premises into consideration; a
being sensible of the ingenuous and singular

haviour of this petitioner, pronounces the said Jeffery Groggram a live man, and will not suffer that he should bury himself out of modesty; but requires him to remain among the living, as an example to those obstinate dead men, who will neither labour for life, nor go to their grave.

N. B. Mr. Groggram is the first person that has come in upon Mr. Bickerstaff's dead warrant.

†††† Florinda demands, by her letter of this day, to be allowed to pass for a living woman, having danced the Derbyshire Hornpipe in the presence of several friends on Saturday last.

Granted; provided she can bring proof, that she can make a pudding on the twenty-fourth instant.

N° 107. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1709.

——Ah miser!
Quantâ laboras in Charybdi,
Digne puer meliore flammâ?

HOR. 1. Od. xxvii. 20.

Unhappy youth! doth she surprise?
And have her flames possess'd
Thy burning breast?
Thou didst deserve a dart from kinder eyes.

CREECH.

Sheer-lane, December 14.

ABOUT four this afternoon, which is the hour I usually put myself in a readiness to receive company, there entered a gentleman, who I believed at first came upon some ordinary question: but, as he

approached nearer to me, I saw in his countenance a deep sorrow, mixed with a certain ingenuous complacency, that gave me sudden good-will towards him. He stared, and betrayed an absence of thought, as he was going to communicate his business to me. But at last, recovering himself, he said with an air of great respect, "Sir, it would be an injury to your knowledge in the occult sciences, to tell you what is my distress; I dare say, you read it in my countenance: I, therefore, beg your advice to the most unhappy of all men." Much experience has made me particularly sagacious in the discovery of distempers, and I soon saw that his was love. I then turned to my common-place-book, and found his case under the word *Coquette;* and reading over the catalogue which I have collected out of this great city of all under that character, I saw at the name of Cynthia his fit came upon him. I repeated the name thrice after a musing manner, and immediately perceived his pulse quicken two thirds; when his eyes, instead of the wildness with which they appeared at his entrance, looked with all the gentleness imaginable upon me, not without tears. "Oh! Sir," said he, "you know not the unworthy usage I have met with from the woman my soul doats on. I could gaze at her to the end of my being: yet when I have done so, for some time past, I have found her eyes fixed on another. She is now two-and-twenty, in the full tyranny of her charms, which she once acknowledged she rejoiced in, only as they made her choice of me, out of a crowd of admirers, the more obliging. But in the midst of this happiness, so it is, Mr. Bickerstaff, that young Quickset, who is just come to town, without any other recommendation than that of being tolerably handsome, and excessively rich, has

won her heart in so shameless a manner, that she dies for him. In a word, I would consult you, how to cure myself of this passion for an ungrateful woman, who triumphs in her falsehood, and can make no man happy, because her own satisfaction consists chiefly in being capable of giving distress. I know Quickset is at present considerable with her, for no other reason but that he can be without her, and feel no pain in the loss. Let me, therefore, desire you, Sir, to fortify my reason against the levity of an inconstant, who ought only to be treated with neglect."

All this time I was looking over my receipts, and asked him, "if he had any good winter boots——" "Boots, Sir!" said my patient——I went on; "You may easily reach Harwich in a day, so as to be there when the packet goes off."—"Sir," said the lover, "I find you design me for travelling; but, alas! *I have no language*, it will be the same thing to me as solitude, to be in a strange country. I have," continued he, sighing, "been many years in love with this creature, and have almost lost even my English, at least to speak such as any body else does. I asked a tenant of ours, who came up to town the other day with rent, whether the flowery mead near my father's house in the country had any shepherd in it? I have called a cave a grotto these three years, and must keep ordinary company, and frequent busy people for some time, before I can recover my common words." I smiled at his raillery upon himself, though I well saw it came from a heavy heart. "You are," said I, "acquainted, to be sure, with some of the general officers: suppose you made a campaign?"—"If I did," said he, "I should venture more than any man there, for I should be in danger of starving; my father is such an untoward old gentleman, that he would tell me

he found it hard enough to pay his taxes towards
war, without making it more expensive by an allo
ance to me. With all this, he is as fond as h
rugged, and I am his only son."

I looked upon the young gentleman with n
tenderness, and not like a physician, but a frien
for I talked to him so largely, that if I had p
celled my discourse into distinct prescript
am confident, I gave him two hundred p
worth of advice. He heard me with great
bowing, smiling, and showing all othe
of that natural good breeding which ingenuo
pers pay to those who are elder and
themselves. I entertained him to the follow
purpose: "I am sorry, Sir, that your passion
so long a date, for evils are much more curable
their beginnings; but at the same time must all
that you are not to be blamed, since your youth
merit has been abused by one of the most ch
ing, but the most unworthy sort of women,
coquettes. A coquette is a chaste jilt, and
only from a common one, as a soldier, who is p
fect in exercise, does from one that is actually
service. This grief, like all others, is to be cu
only by time; and although you are convinced
moment as much as you will be ten years hen
that she ought to be scorned and neglected, you
you must not expect your remedy from the force
reason. The cure then is only in time, and
hastening of the cure only in the manner of
ploying that time. You have answered me as
travel and a campaign, so that we have only Gre
Britain to avoid her in. Be then yourself,
listen to the following rules, which only can be
use to you in this unaccountable distemper, wher
the patient is often averse even to his recovery.
has been of benefit to some to apply themselves

ess: but as that may not lay in your way, go to your estate, mind your fox-hounds, and re the life you are weary of, over every hedge itch in the country. These are wholesome re-s; but if you can have resolution enough, ra-stay in town, and recover yourself even in the where she inhabits. Take particular care to all places where you may possibly meet her, n the sight of every thing which may bring o your remembrance; there is an infection in at relates to her: you will find, her house, hariot, her domestics, and her very lap-dog, o many instruments of torment. Tell me se-ly, do you think you could bear the sight of her" He shook his head at the question, and said, a! Mr. Bickerstaff, you must have been a nt, or you could not have been so good a phy-a."—"To tell you truly," said I, "about the ieth year of my age, I received a wound that till left a scar in my mind, never to be quite out by time or philosophy.

The means, which I found the most effectual my cure were reflexions upon the ill-usage I had ved from the woman I loved, and the pleasure r her take in my sufferings.

I considered the distress she brought upon me eatest that could befal an human creature; at ame time that she did not inflict this upon one was her enemy, one that had done her an in-, one that had wished her ill; but on the man loved her more than any else loved her, and e than it was possible for him to love any other

1.

In the next place, I took pains to consider her ll her imperfections; and that I might be sure to of them I constantly, kept company with those

her female friends, who were her dearest and i
intimate acquaintance.

" Amongst her highest imperfections, I
dwelt upon her baseness of mind and ingrat
that made her triumph in the pain and angu
the man who loved her, and of one who in
days, without vanity be it spoken, was tho
deserve her love.

" To shorten my story, she was married to a
ther, which would have distracted me, had
proved a good husband: but to my great ple
he used her at first with coldness, and afterv
with contempt. I hear he still treats her very
and am informed, that she often says to her w
this is a just revenge for my falsehood to my
love: what a wretch am I, that might have l
married to the famous Mr. Bickerstaff!"

My patient looked upon me with a kind of
lancholy pleasure, and told me, " He did not th
it was possible for a man to live to the age I am
of, who in his thirtieth year had been tortured
that passion in its violence. For my part," said
" I can neither eat, drink, nor sleep in it; nor l
company with any body, but two or three f
who are in the same condition."

" There," answered I, " you are to bl ;
as you ought to avoid nothing more tl ne
company with yourself, so you ought to be p
cularly cautious of keeping company with men
yourself. As long as you do this, you do bu
dulge your distemper.

" I must not dismiss you without further ins
tions. If possible, transfer your passion from
woman you are now in love with to another; c
you cannot do that, change the passion itself
some other passion, that is to speak more p

: some other agreeable woman; or if you
lo this, grow covetous, ambitious, litigious;
love of woman into that of profit, prefer-
eputation; and for a time give up yourself
to the pursuit.
is is a method we sometimes take in physic,
e turn a desperate disease into one we can
sily cure."
ade little answer to all this, but crying out,
," for his passion reduced his discourse to
n
e is one thing," added I, "which is pre-
to a man in your condition, and, there-
be avoided with the greatest care and cau-
is, in a word, to think of your mistress
u together, whether walking, discoursing,
—" "The devil!" he cried out, "who can
". To compose him, for, I pitied him very
"The time will come," said I, "when you
t only bear it, but laugh at it. As a prepa-
) it, ride every morning, an hour at least,
: wind full in your face. Upon your return,
t the several precepts which I have now
ou, and drink upon them a bottle of Spaw-
Repeat this every day for a month suc-
, and let me see you at the end of it." He
ng his leave with many thanks, and some
nce of consolation in his countenance, when
him back to acquaint him, "that I had
information of a design of the coquettes to
all the true Spaw-water in town:" upon
e took his leave in haste, with a resolution
l things ready for entering upon his regimen
: morning.

N° 108. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1709.

Pronaque cum spectent animalia cætera terram,
Os homini sublime dedit: Cœlumque tueri
Jussit——— OVID. Met. I. 85.

Thus while the mute creation downward bend
Their sight, and to their earthly mother tend,
Man looks aloft, and with erected eyes
Beholds his own hereditary skies. DRYDEN.

Sheer-lane, December 16.

It is not to be imagined how great an effect well-disposed lights, with proper forms and orders in assemblies, have upon some tempers. I am sure I feel it in so extraordinary a manner, that I cannot in a day or two get out of my imagination any very beautiful or disagreeable impression which I receive on such occasions. For this reason I frequently look in at the play-house, in order to enlarge my thoughts, and warm my mind with some new ideas, that may be serviceable to me in my lucubrations.

In this disposition I entered the theatre the other day, and placed myself in a corner of it very convenient for seeing, without being myself observed. I found the audience hushed in a very deep attention; and did not question but some noble tragedy was just then in its crisis, or that an incident was to be unravelled, which would determine the fate of a hero. While I was in this suspense, pecting every moment to see my old friend Betterton appear in all the majesty of di to my unspeakable amazement there came up a m with a face between his feet; and as I was loo

n, he raised himself on one leg in such a perpen-
icular posture, that the other grew in a direct line
bove his head. It afterwards twisted itself into
ie motions and wreathings of several different ani-
ials, and after a great variety of shapes and trans-
rmations, went off the stage in the figure of a
uman creature. The admiration, the applause,
ie satisfaction of the audience, during this strange
ntertainment, is not to be expressed. I was very
uch out of countenance for my dear countrymen,
nd looked about with some apprehension, for fear
hy foreigner should be present. Is it possible,
hought I, that human nature can rejoice in its
isgrace, and take pleasure in seeing its own figure
rned to ridicule, and distorted into forms that
a horror and aversion? There is something dis-
i ndous and immoral in the being able to bear
n a sight. Men of elegant and noble minds are
ocked at seeing the characters of persons who
eserve esteem for their virtue, knowledge, or ser-
ices to their country, placed in wrong lights, and
y misrepresentation made the subject of buf-
oonery. Such a nice abhorrence is not indeed to
e found among the vulgar; but methinks it is won-
lerful, that those who have nothing but the out-
ard figure to distinguish them as men, should de-
ight in seeing humanity abused, vilified, and dis-
raced.

I must confess, there is nothing that more pleases
, in all that I read in books, or see among man-
n , than such passages as represent human nature
n its proper dignity. As man is a creature made up
f different extremes, he has something in him very
reat and very mean. A skilful artist may draw an
xcellent picture of him in either of these views.
The finest authors of antiquity have taken him on
he more advantageous side. They cultivate the

natural grandeur of the soul, raise in her a gener ambition, feed her with hopes of immortality a perfection, and do all they can to widen the | tion between the virtuous and the vicious, by mak ing the difference betwixt them as great as be gods and brutes. In short, it is impossible to r a page in Plato, Tully, and a thousand other an moralists, without being a greater and a better for it. On the contrary, I could never read any o our modish French authors, or those of our own country, who are the imitators and admirers of t trifling nation, without being for some time out o humour with myself and at every thing about me Their business is, to depreciate human nature, an consider it under its worst appearances. They giv mean interpretations and base motives to the wor thiest actions: they resolve virtue and vice into con stitution. In short, they endeavour to ma distinction between man and man, or between th species of men and that of brutes. As an instanc of this kind of authors, among many others, let any one examine the celebrated Rochefoucault, who i the great philosopher for administering of consolatio to the idle, the envious, and worthless part o mankind.

I remember a young gentleman of moderat understanding, but great vivacity, who by dippin into many authors of this nature, had got a lit smattering of knowledge, just enough to make atheist or a free-thinker, but not a philosopher man of sense. With these accomplishments, h went to visit his father in the country, who was plain, rough, honest man, and wise, though no learned. The son, who took all opportunities t show his learning, began to establish a new religio in the family, and to enlarge the narrowness of thei country notions; in which he succeeded so well, tha

he had seduced the butler by his table-talk, and staggered his eldest sister. The old gentleman began to be alarmed at the schisms that arose among his children, but did not yet believe his son's doctrine to be so pernicious as it really was, until one day talking of his setting dog, the son said, "he did not question but Trey was as immortal as any one of the family;" and in the heat of the argument told his father, "that, for his own part, he expected to die like a dog." Upon which, the old man starting up in a very great passion, cried out, "Then, sirrah, you shall live like one;" and taking his cane in his hand, cudgelled him out of his system. This had so good an effect upon him, that he took up from that day, fell to reading good books, and is now a bencher in the Middle-Temple

I do not mention this cudgelling part of the story with a design to engage the secular arm in matters of this nature; but certainly, if it ever exerts itself in affairs of opinion and speculation, it ought to do it on such shallow and despicable pretenders to knowledge, who endeavour to give man dark and uncomfortable prospects of his being, and destroy those principles which are the support, happiness, and glory of all public societies, as well as private persons.

I think it is one of Pythagoras's golden sayings, "That a man should take care above all things to have a due respect for himself." And it is certain, that this licentious sort of authors, who are for depreciating mankind, endeavour to disappoint and undo what the most refined spirits have been labouring to advance since the beginning of the world. The very design of dress, good-breeding, outward ornaments, and ceremony, were to lift up human nature, and set it off to an advantage. Architecture, painting, and statuary, were invented with

the same design; as indeed every art and science contributes to the embellishment of life, to wearing off and throwing into shades the low parts of our nature. Poetry carries on to end more than all the rest, as may be seen in following passage taken out of Sir Francis "Advancement of Learning," which gives a truer and better account of this art than all the vol that were ever written upon it.

"Poetry, especially heroical, seems to be altogether from a noble foundation, which much for the dignity of man's nature. For seeing this sensible world is in dignity inferior to the soul of man, poesy seems to endow human nature with that which history denies; and to give satisfact to the mind, with at least the shadow of th where the substance cannot be had. For if the ter be thoroughly considered, a strong argument may be drawn from poesy, that a more stately greatness of things, a more perfect order, and a more beautiful variety, delights the soul of man, than any way can be found in nature since the fall. Wherefore, seeing the acts and events, which are the subjects of true history, are not of that amplitude as to content the mind of man; poesy is ready at hand to feign acts more heroical. Because true history reports the successes of business not proportionable to the merit of virtues and vices, poesy corrects it, and presents events and fortunes according to desert, and according to the law of Providence: because true history, through the frequent satiety and similitude of things, works at a distaste and misprison in the mind of man; poesy cheareth and refresheth the soul, chanting things rare and various, and full of vicissitudes. So as poesy serveth and conferreth to delectation, magnanimity, and morality; and therefore, it may seem deservedly to have some partici-

Hvineness, because it doth raise the mind,
l the spirit with high raptures, by propor-
shows of things to the desires of the mind,
submitting the mind to things, as reason
ry do. And by these allurements and con-
whereby it cherisheth the soul of man,
also with consort of music, whereby it may
sweetly insinuate itself, it hath won such ac-
that it hath been in estimation even in rude
and barbarous nations, when other learning
excluded."

But there is nothing which favours and falls in
h this natural greatness and dignity of human na-
so much as religion, which does not only pro-
the entire refinement of the mind, but the glo-
ying of the body, and the immortality of both.

109. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1709.

Perditur hæc inter miseris lux——

HOR. 2. Sat. vi. 59.

——in this giddy, busy maze,
I lose the sun-shine of my days. FRANCIS.

Sheer-lane, December 19.

HERE has not some years been such a tumult in
r neighbourhood as this evening about six. At the
wer end of the lane the word was given, that there
as a great funeral coming by. The next moment
forward in a very hasty, instead of a solemn
ier, a long train of lights, when at last a foot-

man, in very high youth and health, with all hi
force ran through the whole art of beating the
of the house next to me, and ended his rattle
the true finishing rap. This did not only bring
to the door at which he knocked, but to that
every one in the lane in an instant. Among the
my country-maid took the alarm, and imme
running to me, told me, "there was a fine,
lady, who had three men with burial torc
ing way before her, carried by two men up
with looking-glasses on each side of her, and
glass also before, she herself appearing the pr
that ever was." The girl was going on in her story,
when the lady was come to my door in her
having mistaken the house. As soon as she en
I saw she was Mr. Isaac's scholar, by l
air and the becoming *stop* she made when she b
gan her apology. "You will be surprised, Sir," said
she, "that I take this liberty, who am utterly a
stranger to you; besides that it may be thought an
indecorum that I visit a man." She made here a
pretty hesitation, and held her fan to her face.——
Then, as if recovering her resolution, she proceeded
——"But I think you have said, that men of y
age are of no sex; therefore, I may be as free w
you as one of my own." The lady did me the ho-
nour to consult me on some particular matters, which
am not at liberty to report. But, before she took
her leave, she produced a long list of names, which
she looked upon, to know whither she was to go
next. I must confess, I could hardly forbear disco-
vering to her, immediately, that I secretly laughed
at the fantastical regularity she observed in throw
away her time; but I seemed to indulge her in
out of a curiosity to hear her own sense of her
of life. "Mr. Bickerstaff," said she, "you ca
imagine how much you are obliged to me, in stay

thus long with you, having so many visits to make; and, indeed, if I had not hopes that a third part of those I am going to will be abroad, I should be unable to dispatch them this evening."—"Madam," said I, "are you in all this haste and perplexity, and only going to such as you have not a mind to see?"—"Yes, Sir," said she, "I have several now with whom I keep a constant correspondence, and return visit for visit punctually every week, and yet we have not seen each other since last November was twelvemonth."

She went on with a very good air, and fixing her eyes on her list, told me, "she was obliged to ride about three miles and a half before she arrived at her own house." I asked, "after what manner this list was taken, whether the persons writ their names to her, and desired that favour, or how she knew she was not cheated in her muster-roll?"—"The method we take," says she, "is, that the porter, or servant who comes to the door, writes down all the names who come to see us, and all such are entitled to a return of their visit."—"But," said I, "Madam, I presume those who are searching for each other, and know one another by messages, may be understood as candidates only for each other's favour; and that after so many how-do-ye-does, you proceed to visit or not, as you like the run of each other's reputation or fortune."—"You understand it right," said she; "and we become friends, as soon as we are convinced that our dislike to each other may be of any consequence: for to tell you truly," said she, "for it is in vain to hide any thing from a man of your penetration, general visits are not made out of good-will, but for fear of ill-will. Punctuality in this case is often a suspicious circumstance: and there is nothing so common as to have a lady say, 'I hope she has heard nothing of what I said of her, that she

grows so great with me!' But indeed my porter i dull and negligent, that I fear he has not put d half the people I owe visits to."—" Madam," I, " methinks it would be very proper if your tleman-usher or groom of the chamber were alw to keep an account, by way of debtor and credi I know a city lady who uses that method, whi think very laudable; for though you may p at the court end of the town receive at the door, light up better than within Temple-bar, yet I do that justice to my friends the ladies within walls, to own, that they are much more exact their correspondence. The lady I was going to m tion as an example has always the second appren out of the counting-house for her own use on visiting-day, and he sets down very methodically the visits which are made her. I remember v well, that on the first of January last, when made up her account for the year 1708, it stood th

" Mrs. Courtwood — Debtor.		" *Per Contra*—Credi	
To seventeen hundred and four visits received,	1704	By eleven hundred and nine paid,	1
		Due to balance, . . .	
			1

" This gentlewoman is a woman of great econo and was not afraid to go to the bottom of her affa and, therefore, ordered her apprentice to give credit for my lady Easy's impertinent visits wrong days, and deduct only twelve *per cent.* had orders also to subtract one and a half from whole of such as she had denied herself to be she kept a day; and after taking those proper

icles of credit on her side, she was in arrear but five undred. She ordered her husband to buy in a ouple of fresh coach-horses; and with no other loss han the death of two footmen, and a *church-yard ough* brought upon her coachman, she was clear in he world on the tenth of February last, and keeps o before-hand, that she pays every body their own, nd yet makes daily new acquaintances."

I know not whether this agreeable visitant was ired with the example of the lady I told her of, but : immediately vanished out of my sight, it being, t seems, as necessary a point of good-breeding, to o off as if you stole something out of the house, s it is to enter as if you came to fire it. I do not now one thing that contributes so much to the les- ening the esteem men of sense have to the fair sex, as this articles of visits. A young lady cannot be married, but all impertinents in town must be beat- ing the tattoo from one quarter of the town to the other, to show they know what passes. If a man of honour should once in an age marry a woman of merit for her intrinsic value, the envious things are all in motion in an instant, to make it known to the sisterhood as an indiscretion, and published to the town how many pounds he might have had to have been troubled with one of them. After they are tired with that, the next thing is, to make their compliments to the married couple and their rela- tions. They are equally busy at a funeral, and the death of a person of quality is always attended with the murder of several sets of coach-horses and chair men. In both cases, the visitants are wholly unaf- fected, either with joy or sorrow. For which reason, their congratulations and condolences are equally words of course; and one would be thought wonder- fully ill-bred, that should build upon such ex-

pressions as encouragements to expect from t any instance of friendship.

Thus are the true causes of living, and the pleasures of life, lost in show, imposture, and pertinence. As for my part, I think most of misfortunes in families arise from the trifling the women have in spending their time, and g fying only their eyes and ears, instead of their re and understanding.

A fine young woman, bred under a visiti ther, knows all that is possible for her to be acqu ed with by report, and sees the virtuous and vicious used so indifferently, that the fears born with are abated, and desires indulged, in portion to her love of that light and trifling con sation. I know I talk like an old man; but I go on to say, that I think the general receptic mixed company, and the pretty fellows that are mitted at those assemblies, give a young woma false an idea of life, that she is generally bred with a scorn of that sort of merit in a man, w only can make her happy in marriage; and wretch to whose lot she falls, very often rec in his arms a coquette, with the *refuse* of an long before given away to a coxcomb.

*** Having received from the society of holders sundry complaints of the obstinate and tory behaviour of several dead persons, who l e guilty of very great outrages and disorders, that means elapsed the proper time of their ment; and having on the other hand received m appeals from the aforesaid dead persons, whe they desire to be heard before such their interm I have set apart Wednesday, the twenty-first inst as an extraordinary court-day for the hearing of t

parties. If, therefore, any one can alledge why they, or any of their acquaintance, should or should not be buried, I desire they may be ready with their asses at that time, or that they will for ever after their tongues.

B. This is the last hearing on this subject.

№110. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1709.

——*Quæ lucis miseris tam dira cupido?*
VIRG. Æn. vi. 721.

Gods! can the wretches long for life again?
PITT.

Sheer-lane, December 21.

As soon as I had placed myself in my chair of judicature, I ordered my clerk, Mr. Lillie, to read to the assembly, who were gathered together according to notice, a certain declaration, by way of charge, to open the purpose of my session, which tended only to this explanation, that as other courts were often called to demand the execution of persons dead in law; so this was held to give the last orders relating to those who are dead in reason. The solicitor of the new company of Upholders near the Hay-market appeared in behalf of that useful society, and brought in an accusation of a young woman, who herself stood at the bar before me. Mr. Lillie read her indictment, which was in substance, "That, whereas, Mrs. Rebecca Pindust, of the parish of Saint Martin in the Fields, had, by the use of one

instrument called a looking-glass, and by the further use of certain attire, made either of cambric, muslin, or other linen wares, upon her head, attained to such an evil art and magical force in the motion of her eyes and turn of her countenance, that she said Rebecca had put to death several young men of the said parish; and that the said young men had acknowledged in certain papers, commonly called love-letters, which were produced in court, gilded on the edges, and sealed *with a particular wax*, with certain amorous and inchanting words wrought upon the said seals, that they died for the said Rebecca: and, whereas the said Rebecca persisted in the said evil practice; this way of life the said society construed to be, according to former edicts, a state of death, and demanded an order for the interment of the said Rebecca."

I looked upon the maid with great humanity, and desired her to make answer to what was said against her. She said, "It was indeed true, that she had practised all the arts and means she could, to dispose of herself happily in marriage, but thought she did not come under the censure expressed in my writings for the same; and humbly hoped I would not condemn her for the ignorance of her accusers, who, according to their own words, had rather represented her killing, than dead." She further alleged, "That the expressions mentioned in the papers written to her were become mere words, and that she had been always ready to marry any of those who said they died for her; but that they made their escape, as soon as they found themselves pitied or believed." She ended her discourse, by desiring I would for the future settle the meaning of the words "I die," in letters of love.

Mrs. Pindust behaved herself with such an air of innocence, that she easily gained credit, and was ac-

quitted. Upon which occasion, I gave it as a standing rule, "that any person, who in any letter, billet, or discourse, should tell a woman he died for her, should, if she pleased, be obliged to live with her, or be immediately interred upon such their own confession, without bail or mainprize."

It happened, that the very next who was brought before me was one of her admirers, who was indicted upon that very head. A letter, which he acknowledged to be his own hand, was read, in which were the following words, "Cruel creature, I die for you." It was observable that he took snuff all the time his accusation was reading. I asked him, "how he came to use these words, if he were not a dead man?" He told me, "he was in love with the lady, and did not know any other way of telling her so; and that all his acquaintance took the same method." Though I was moved with compassion towards him, by reason of the weakness of his parts, yet for example-sake I was forced to answer, "Your sentence shall be a warning to all the rest of your companions, not to tell lies for want of wit." Upon this, he began to beat his snuff-box with a very saucy air; and opening it again, "Faith, Isaac," said he, "thou art a very unaccountable old fellow.—Pr'ythee, who gave thee power of life and death? What a-pox hast thou to do with ladies and lovers? I suppose thou wouldst have a man be in company with his mistress, and say nothing to her. Dost thou call breaking a jest, telling a lie? Ha? is that thy wisdom, old stiffrump, ha?" He was going on with this insipid common-place mirth, sometimes opening his box, sometimes shutting it, then viewing the picture on the lid, and then the workmanship of the hinge, when, in the midst of his eloquence, I ordered his box to be taken from him; upon which

he was immediately struck speechless, and carr
off stone dead.

The next who appeared was a hale old fellow
sixty. He was brought in by his relations, w
desired leave to bury him. Upon requiring a
tinct account of the prisoner, a credible wi
posed, " that he always rose at ten of the clo
played with his cat until twelve, smoaked to
until one, was at dinner until two, then took
ther pipe, played at back-gammon until six, t
of one Madam Frances, an old mistress of his,
eight, repeated the same account at the tavern
ten, then returned home, took the other pipe,
then to bed." I asked him, " what he had to say
himself?"—" As to what," said he, " they ment
concerning Madam Frances——"

I did not care for hearing the Canterbury
and, therefore, thought myself seasonably in
by a young gentleman, who appeared in the
of the old man, and prayed an arrest of judg
" for that he the said young man held certain la
by his the said old man's life." Upon this, the
licitor of the Upholders took an occasion to de
him also, and thereupon produced several ev
that witnessed to his life and conversation.
peared, that each of them divided their h
matters of equal moment and importance to
selves and to the public. They rose at the
hour: while the old man was playing with his
the young one was looking out of his window; wh
the old man was smoaking his pipe, the you
was rubbing his teeth; while one was at
the other was dressing; while one was at back-g
mon, the other was at dinner; while the old fell
was talking of Madam Frances, the young one w
either at play, or toasting women whom he nev

nversed with. The only difference was, that the oung man had never been good for any thing; the ld man, a man of worth before he knew Madam rances. Upon the whole, I ordered them to be oth interred together, with inscriptions proper to heir characters, signifying, that the old man died n the year 1689, and was buried in the year 1709; nd over the young one it was said, that he departed his world in the twenty-fifth year of his death.

The next class of criminals were authors in prose verse. Those of them who had produced any i-born work were immediately dismissed to their burial, and were followed by others, who, notwithstanding some sprightly issue in their life-time, had given proofs of their death by some posthumous children, that bore no resemblance to their elder brethren. As for those who were the fathers of a mixed progeny, provided always they could prove the last to be a live child, they escaped with life, but not without loss of limbs; for, in this case, I was satisfied with amputation of the parts which were mortified.

These were followed by a great crowd of superannuated benchers of the inns of court, senior fellows of colleges, and defunct statesmen: all whom I ordered to be decimated indifferently, allowing the rest a reprieve for one year, with a promise of free pardon in case of resuscitation.

There were still great multitudes to be examined; but, finding it very late, I adjourned the court, not without the secret pleasure that I had done my duty, and furnished out a handsome execution.

Going out of the court, I received a letter, informing me, "that, in pursuance of the edict of justice in one of my late visions, all those of the fair sex began to appear pregnant who had run any hazard of it; as was manifest by a particular swelling in the petticoats of several ladies in and about

this great city." I must confess, I do not attribute the rising of this part of the dress to this occasion, yet must own, that I am very much disposed to be offended with such a new and unaccountable I shall, however, pronounce nothing upon it, I have examined all that can be said for and it. And, in the mean time, think fit to give notice to the fair ladies who are now making up winter suits, that they may abstain from all d of that kind, until they shall find what ju will be passed upon them; for it would very trouble me, that they should put themselves to an unnecessary expense; and I could not but think self to blame, if I should hereafter forbid them wearing of such garments, when they have money upon them, without having given t my previous admonition.

N. B. A letter of the sixteenth instant about one of the fifth, will be answered according to the desire of the party, which he will see in a few days.

N° 111. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1709.

—Procul, O! Procul, este profani! VIRG. Æn. VI. 258.

Hence, ye profane! far hence be gone!

Sheer-lane, December 23.

THE watchman, who does me particular honours as being the chief man in the lane, gave so very great a thump at my door last night, that I awakened

at the knock, and heard myself complimented with the usual salutation of, " Good-morrow, Mr. Bickaff; good-morrow, my masters all." The si- e and darkness of the night disposed me to be re than ordinarily serious; and as my attention not drawn out among exterior objects by the ations of sense, my thoughts naturally fell upon lf. I was considering, amidst the stillness of night, what was the proper employment of a ing being? what were the perfections it should ose to itself? and what the end it should aim t r mind is of such a particular cast, that the all of a shower of rain, or the whistling of wind, uch a time, is apt to fill my thoughts with some- awful and solemn. I was in this disposition, n our bellman began his midnight homily, which e has been repeating to us every winter-night for twenty years, with the usual exordium;

" Oh! mortal man, thou that art born in sin!"

itiments of this nature, which are in themselves and reasonable, however debased by the circumces that accompany them, do not fail to produce eir natural effect in a mind that is not perverted depraved by wrong notions of gallantry, politess, and ridicule. The temper which I now found yself in, as well as the time of the year, put me mind of those lines in Shakspeare, wherein, acrding to his agreeable wildness of imagination, he s wrought a country tradition into a beautiful ece of poetry. In the tragedy of Hamlet, where e ghost vanishes upon the cock's crowing, he takes casion to mention its crowing all hours of the night out Christmas time, and to insinuate a kind of igious veneration for that season.

" It faded on the crowing of the cock.
Some say, that ever 'gainst that season comes
Wherein our Saviour's birth is celebrated,
The bird of dawning singeth all night long.
And then, they say, no spirit dares stir abroad:
The nights are wholesome; then no planets strike,
No fairy takes; no witch hath power to charm;
So hallow'd and so gracious is the time."

This admirable author, as well as the best greatest men of all ages, and of all nations, se to have had his mind thoroughly seasoned with re ligion, as is evident by many passages in his p that would not be suffered by a modern audien and are, therefore, certain instances that the age lived in had a much greater sense of virtue th present.

It is indeed a melancholy reflexion to c that the British nation, which is now at a g height of glory for its councils and conquests ever was before, should distinguish itself by a certain looseness of principles, and a falling off from those schemes of thinking, which conduce to th happiness and perfection of human nature. T evil comes upon us from the works of a few lemn blockheads, that meet together, with the and seriousness of apostles, to extirpate comm sense, and propagate infidelity. These are ut wretches, who, without any show of wit, le ing, or reason, publish their crude conceptions wit an ambition of appearing more wise than the rest o mankind, upon no other pretence than that of dissenting from them. One gets by heart a catalogue of title-pages and editions; and, immediately, to become conspicuous, declares that he is an unbeliever. Another knows how to write a receipt, or cut up a dog, and forthwith argues against the immortality of the soul. I have known many a little

t, in the ostentation of his parts, rally the truth the Scripture, who was not able to read a chapter it. These poor wretches talk blasphemy for want discourse, and are rather the objects of scorn or :v, than of our indignation; but the grave dis- nt, that reads and writes, and spends all his in convincing himself and the world that he is oetter than a brute, ought to be whipped out of a vernment, as a blot to civil society, and a de- ner of mankind. I love to consider an infidel, ıether distinguished by the title of deist, atheist, free-thinker, in three different lights, in his so- his afflictions, and his last moments.

A wise man, that lives up to the principles of rea- ı and virtue, if one considers him in his solitude, in taking in the system of the universe, ob- ving the mutual dependence and harmony, by ıich the whole frame of it hangs together, beat- ; down his passions, or swelling his thoughts th magnificent ideas of Providence, makes a bler figure in the eye of an intelligent being, ın the greatest conqueror amidst all the pomps d solemnities of a triumph. On the contrary, ere is not a more ridiculous animal than an atheist his retirement. His mind is incapable of rapture elevation. He can only consider himself as an in- ;nificant figure in a landscape, and wandering up d down in a field or a meadow, under the same rms as the meanest animals about him, and as bject to as total a mortality as they; with this ag- avation, that he is the only one amongst them, who :s under the apprehension of it.

In distresses, he must be of all creatures the ost helpless and forlorn; he feels the whole pres- re of a present calamity, without being relieved / the memory of any thing that is past, or the ospect of any thing that is to come. Annihilation

is the greatest blessing that he proposes to hi
and an halter or a pistol the only refuge he c
to. But, if you would behold one of these gl
miscreants in his poorest figure, you must c
him under the terrors, or at the approach of d

About thirty years ago I was a shipboard
one of these vermin, when there arose a brisk
which could frighten nobody but himself.
the rolling of the ship, he fell upon his kn
confessed to the chaplain, " that he had been
atheist, and had denied a Supreme Being ever
he came to his estate." The good man was
nished, and a report immediately ran throug
ship, " that there was an atheist upon the u
deck." Several of the common seamen, wh
never heard the word before, thought it had
some strange fish, but they were more sur
when they saw it was a man, and heard out
own mouth, that he never believed until thi
that there was a God. As he lay in the agor
confession, one of the honest tars whispered
boatswain, " that it would be a good deed to
him overboard." But we were now within si
port, when of a sudden the wind fell, and th
nitent relapsed, begging all of us that were
sent, " as we were gentlemen, not to say any
of what had passed."

He had not been ashore above two days,
one of the company began to rally him upon h
votion on shipboard, which the other denied
high terms, that it produced the lye on both
and ended in a duel. The atheist was run th
the body, and, after some loss of blood, beca
good a Christian as he was at sea, until he
that his wound was not mortal. He is at p
one of the free-thinkers of the age, and now w

hlet against several received opinions con-
the existence of fairies.

ıave taken upon me to censure the faults of
and country in which I live, I should have
myself inexcusable to have passed over this
ne, which is the subject of my present dis-
I shall, therefore, from time to time, give
ıtrymen particular cautions against this dis-
of the mind, that is almost become fashion-
d by that means more likely to spread. I
ıewhere either read or heard a very memo-
ıce, "that a man would be a most in-
ıie monster, should he have the faults that
lent to his years, constitution, profession,
religion, age, and country;" and yet every
ı danger of them all. For this reason, as I
ld man, I take particular care to avoid being
and telling long stories. As I am cho-
rorbear not only swearing, but all inter-
of fretting, as pugh! or pish! and the
s I am a lay-man, I resolve not to conceive
n for a wise and good man, because his
or a different colour from mine. As I am
d of the ancient family of the Bickerstaffs,
call a man of merit an upstart. As a pro-
I do not suffer my zeal so far to transport
o name the Pope and the Devil together.
ı fallen into this degenerate age, I guard
articularly against the folly I have now been
of. And as I am an Englishman, I am
ıtious not to hate a stranger, or despise a
atine.

N° 112. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1709.

Accedet suavitas quædam oportet sermonum, atque morum, haud quaquam mediocre condimentum amicitiæ: tristitia autem, et in omni re severitas absit. Habet illa quidem gravitatem, sed amicitia remissior esse debet, et liberior, et dulcior, et ad omnem comitatem facilitatemque proclivior.

CIC. *De Amicitia.*

There should be added a certain sweetness of discourse manners, which is no inconsiderable sauce to friendship. But by all means throw out sadness and severity in every thing. There is something of gravity indeed in it; but friendship requires a greater remissness, freedom, and pleasantness, and an inclination to good temper and affability.

Sheer-lane, December 26.

As I was looking over my letters this morning, I chanced to cast my eye upon the following one, which come to my hands about two months ago from an old friend of mine, who, as I have since learned, was the person that writ the agreeable epistle inserted in my paper of the third of the last month. It is of the same turn with the other, and may be looked upon as a specimen of right country letters.

"SIR,

"This sets out to you from my summer-house upon the terrace, where I am enjoying a few hours sun-shine, the scanty sweet remains of a fine autumn. The year is almost at the lowest; so that, in all appearance, the rest of my letters between this and spring will be dated from my parlour fire, where the little fond prattle of a wife and children

will so often break in upon the connexion of my thoughts, that you will easily discover it in my style. If this winter should prove as severe as the last, I can tell you before-hand, that I am likely to be a very miserable man, through the perverse temper of my eldest boy. When the frost was in its extremity, you must know that most of the blackbirds, robins, and finches of the parish, whose music has entertained me in the summer, took refuge under my roof. Upon this, my care was, to rise every morning before day, to set open my windows for the reception of the cold and the hungry, whom at the same time I relieved with a very plentiful alms, by strewing corn and seeds upon the floors and shelves. But, Dicky, without any regard to the laws of hospitality, considered the casements as so many traps, and used every bird as a prisoner at discretion. Never did tyrant exercise more various cruelties. Some of the poor creatures he chased to death about the room; others he drove into the jaws of a blood-thirsty cat; and even in his greatest acts of mercy, either clipped the wings, or singed the tails, of his innocent captives. You will laugh, when I tell you I sympathized with every bird in its misfortunes; but I believe you will think me in the right for bewailing the child's unlucky humour. On the other hand, I am extremely pleased to see his younger brother carry an universal benevolence towards every thing that has life. When he was between four and five years old, I caught him weeping over a beautiful butterfly, which he chanced to kill as he was playing with it; and I am informed, that this morning he has given his brother three half-pence, which was his whole estate, to spare the life of a Tom-tit. These are at present the matters of greatest moment within my observation, and I know are too trifling to be communicated to

any but so wise a man as yourself, and from
who has the happiness to be

Your most faithful,
And most obedient servant."

The best critic that ever wrote, speaking of
passages in Homer which appear extravagant or
volous, says, indeed, that they are dreams,
dreams of Jupiter. My friend's letter appe
me in the same light. One sees him in an
hour; but at the same time in the idle ho
wise man. A great mind has something
severe and forbidding, that is not capable of
itself such little relaxations, and of condesc
to these agreeable ways of trifling. Tully,
he celebrates the friendship of Scipio and
who were the greatest as well as the politest
their age, represents it as a beautiful passage in
retirement, that they used to gather up shells
sea-shore, and amuse themselves with the vari
shape and colour which they met with in those
unregarded works of nature. The great Agesi
could be a companion to his own children, and
surprised by the ambassadors of Sparta*, as he
riding among them upon an hobby-horse. Au-
gustus, indeed, had no play-fellows of his own be-
getting; but is said to have passed many of
hours with little Moorish boys at a game of mar-
bles, not unlike our modern *taw*. There is, me-
thinks, a pleasure in seeing great men thus fall into
the rank of mankind, and entertain themselves with
diversions and amusements that are agreeable to the
very weakest of the species. I must frankly con-
fess, that it is to me a beauty in Cato's character,
that he would drink a cheerful bottle with his

* Persia. A.

friend: and I cannot but own, that I have seen with great delight one of the most celebrated authors of the last age feeding the ducks in Saint James's Park. By instances of this nature, the heroes, the statesmen, the philosophers, become as it were familiar with us, and grow the more amiable, the less they endeavour to appear awful. A n who always acts in the severity of wisdom, or tne ughtiness of quality, seems to move in a per- ted part. It looks too constrained and thea- trical, for a man to be always in that character ı distinguishes him from others; besides that slackening and unbending our minds on some occasions makes them exert themselves with greater vigour and alacrity, when they return to their proper and natural state.

As this innocent way of passing a leisure hour is t only consistent with a great character, but very ceful in it; so there are two sorts of people to wnom I would most earnestly recommend it. The first are those who are uneasy out of want of thought; the second are those who are so out of a turbulence of spirit. The first are the impertinent, and the second the dangerous part of mankind.

It grieves me to the very heart, when I see several young gentlemen, descended of honest parents, run up and down, hurrying from one end of the town to the other, calling in at every place of resort, without being able to fix a quarter of an hour in any, and in a particular haste without knowing for what. It would, methinks, be some consolation, if I could persuade these precipitate young lemen to compose this restlessness of mind, and y themselves to any amusement, how trivial that might give them employment, and ĸ nem out of harm's way. They cannot ima- how great a relief it would be to them, if they

could grow sedate enough to play for two or th
hours at a game of *push-pin*. But these b
animals are only their own tormentors. The
lent and dangerous are for embroiling c
stirring up seditions, and subverting constitu
out of a mere restlessness of temper, and an
sibility of all the pleasures of life that are calm
innocent. It is impossible for a man to be so n
employed in any scene of action, as to have
and good affairs enough to fill up his whole
there will still be chasms and empty spac
which a working mind will employ itself to its
prejudice, or that of others, unless it can be at
in the exercise of such actions as are in th
indifferent. How often have I wished, for
good of the nation, that several famous politici
could take any pleasure in feeding ducks! I
upon an able statesman out of business, like a
whale, that will endeavour to overturn the
unless he has an empty cask to play with.

But to return to my good friend and correspondent: I am afraid we shall both be laughed at, when I confess, that we have often gone out into the field to look upon a bird's nest; and have more than once taken an evening's walk together on purpose to see the sun set. I shall conclude with my answer to his foregoing letter:

"DEAR SIR,

"I thank you for your obliging letter, and your kindness to the distressed, who will, doubtless, express their gratitude to you themselves the next spring. As for Dick the tyrant, I must desire you will put a stop to his proceedings; and at the same time take care that his little brother be no loser by his mercy to the Tom-tit. For my own part, I am excluded all conversation with animals that delight

only in a country life, and am, therefore, forced to entertain myself as well as I can with my little dog and cat. They both of them sit by my fire every night, expecting my coming home with impatience; and, at my entrance, never fail of running up to me, and bidding me welcome, each of them in his proper language. As they have been bred up together from their infancy, and seen no other company, they have learned each other's manners, so that the dog often gives himself the airs of a cat, and the cat, in several of her motions and gestures, affects the behaviour of the little dog. When they are at play, I often make one with them: and sometimes please myself with considering how much reason and instinct are capable of delighting each other. Thus, you see, I have communicated to you the material occurrences in my family, with the same freedom that you use to me; as I am, with the same sincerity and affection,

Your most faithful humble servant,

ISAAC BICKERSTAFF."

N° 113. THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1709.

——*Ecce iterum Crispinus!* JUV.

Once more Crispinus comes upon the stage.

Hay-market, December 23.

WHEREAS the gentleman that behaved himself in a very disobedient and obstinate manner at his late trial in Sheer-lane on the twentieth instant, and was

carried off dead upon taking away of his snuff-box, remains still unburied; the company of Upholders, not knowing otherwise how they should be paid, have taken his goods in execution, to defray the charge of his funeral. His said effects are to be exposed to sale by auction, at their office in the Haymarket, on the fourth of January next, and are as follows:

A very rich tweezer-case, containing twelve instruments for the use of each hour in the day.

Four pounds of scented snuff, with three gilt snuff-boxes; one of them with an invisible hinge, and a looking-glass in the lid.

Two more of ivory, with the portraitures on their lids of two ladies of the town; the originals to be seen every night in the side-boxes of the play-house.

A sword with a steel diamond hilt, never drawn but once at May-fair.

Six clean packs of cards, a quart of orange-flower-water, a pair of French scissors, a toothpick-case, and an eyebrow brush.

A large glass-case, containing the linen and cloaths of the deceased; among which are, two embroided suits, a pocket perspective, a dozen pair of *red-heeled shoes*, three pair of *red silk stockings*, and an amber-headed cane.

The strong box of the deceased, wherein were found, five billet-doux, a Bath shilling, a crooked sixpence, a silk garter, a lock of hair, and three broken fans.

A press for books; containing on the upper shelf,

Three bottles of diet-drink.

Two boxes of pills.

A syringe, and other mathematical instruments.

the second shelf are several miscellaneous works; as,

Lampoons.
Plays.
Taylors' bills.
And an almanack for the year seventeen hundred.

On the third shelf,

A bundle of letters unopened, indorsed, in the hand of the deceased, "Letters from the old Gentleman."
Lessons for the flute.
Toland's "Christianity not mysterious:" and a paper filled with patterns of several fashionable stuffs.

On the lower shelf,

One shoe.
A pair of snuffers.
A French grammar.
A mourning hat-band; and half a bottle of usquebaugh.

There will be added to these goods, to make a complete auction, a collection of gold snuff-boxes and clouded canes, which are to continue in fashion for three months after the sale.

The whole are to be set up and prized by Charles Bubbleboy, who is to open the auction with a speech.

I find I am so very unhappy, that, while I am busy in correcting the folly and vice of one sex, several exorbitances break out in the other. I have not thoroughly examined their new-fashioned petticoats, but shall set aside one day in the next week for that purpose. The following petition on this subject was presented to me this morning.

" The humble petition of William Jingle, C
maker and Chair-maker, of the liberty of We
minster;

" To Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire, Censor
Great-Britain;

" Showeth,

" That upon the late invention of Mrs. Cathar
Cross-stitch, mantua-maker, the petticoats of l
were too wide for entering into any coach or
which was in use before the said invention.

" That, for the service of the said ladies, y
petitioner has built a round chair, in the form
lantern, six yards and a half in circumference, w
a stool in the centre of it; the said vehicle bein
contrived, as to receive the passenger by openi
two in the middle, and closing mathematically w
she is seated.

" That your petitioner has also invented a co
for the reception of one lady only, who is to be
in at the top.

" That the said coach has been tried by a la
woman in one of these full petticoats, who wa
down from a balcony, and drawn up again by pul
to the great satisfaction of her lady, and all who
held her.

" Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly pr
that, for the encouragement of ingenuity and
ful inventions, he may be heard before you pass
tence upon the petticoats aforesaid.

" And your petitioner, &

I have likewise received a female petition, si
by several thousands, praying that I would not
longer defer giving judgement in the case of
petticoat, many of them having put off the ma
new cloaths, until such time as they know

verdict will pass upon it. I do, therefore, hereby certify to all whom it may concern, that I do design to set apart Tuesday next for the final determination of that matter, having already ordered a jury of matrons to be impannelled, for the clearing up of any difficult points that may arise in the trial.

*** Being informed that several dead men in and about this city do keep out of the way and abscond, for fear of being buried; and being willing to respite their interment, in consideration of their families, and in hopes of their amendment, I shall allow them certain privileged places, where they may appear to one another, without causing any lett or molestation to the living, or receiving any, in their own persons, from the company of Upholders. Between the hours of seven and nine in the morning, they may appear in safety at Saint James's coffee-house, or at White's, if they do not keep their beds, which is more proper for men in their condition. From nine to eleven, I allow them to walk from Story's to Rosamond's pond* in the Park, or in any other public walks which are not frequented by the living at that time. Between eleven and three, they are to vanish, and keep out of sight until three in the afternoon, at which time y may go to the Exchange until five; and then, hey please, divert themselves at the Hay-market, or Drury-lane, until the play begins. It is further granted in favour of these persons, that they may be received at any table, where there are more present than seven in number: provided that they do t take upon them to talk, judge, commend, or nnd fault with, any speech, action, or behaviour of

* Story's Gate, at one end of the Birdcage-walk, still retains its name; but Rosamond's-pond, at the other end, has been filled up within these few years.

the living. In which case, it shall be seize their persons at any place or hour whatsoever, and to convey their bodies to the next under any thing in this advertisement to the contrary withstanding.

N° 114. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1709.

Ut in vitâ, sic in studiis, pulcherrimum et humanissimum existimo, severitatem comitatemque miscere, ne illa in tristitiam, hæc in petulantiam procedat. PLIN. Epist.

As in a man's life, so in his studies, I think it the most beautiful and humane thing in the world, so to mingle gravity and pleasantry, that the one may not sink into melancholy, nor the other rise up into wantonness.

Sheer-lane, December 30.

I WAS walking about my chamber this morning in a very gay humour, when I saw a coach stop at my door, and a youth about fifteen alighting out of it, whom I perceived to be the eldest son of my bosom friend, that I gave some account of in my paper of the seventeenth of the last month. I felt a sensible pleasure rising in me at the sight of him, my acquaintance having begun with his father when he was just such a stripling, and about that very age. When he came up to me, he took me by the hand, and burst out in tears. I was extremely moved, and immediately said, "Child, how does your father do?" He began to reply, "My mother———" But could not go on for weeping. I went down

ch, and gathered out of him,
dying; and that, while
the last offices to her, he
that time to come and call me to his
, he said, would certainly break his
, if I
not go and comfort him." The child's
etion in coming to me of his own head, and
tenderness he showed for his parents, would
ave quite overpowered me, had I not resolved to
ify myself for the seasonable performances of
se duties which I owed to my friend. As we
e going, I could not but reflect upon the cha-
er of that excellent woman, and the greatness of
grief for the loss of one who has ever been the
pport to him under all other afflictions. How,
ught I, will he be able to bear the hour of her
eath, that could not, when I was lately with him,
eak of a sickness, which was then past, without
rrow! We were now got pretty far into West-
inster, and arrived at my friend's house. At the
oor of it I met Favonius, not without a secret satis-
ction to find he had been there. I had formerly
nversed with him at this house; and as he
bounds with that sort of virtue and knowledge
hich makes religion beautiful, and never leads the
versation into the violence and rage of party-
ntes, I listened to him with great pleasure. Our
iscourse chanced to be upon the subject of death,
hich he treated with such a strength of reason,
nd greatness of soul, that, instead of being ter-
ble it appeared to a mind rightly cultivated altoge-
ier to be contemned, or rather to be desired. As I
t him at the door, I saw in his face a certain
owing of grief and humanity, heightened with an
r of fortitude and resolution, which, as I after-
ards found, had such an irresistible force, as to
spend the pains of the dying, and the lamen-

tation of the nearest friends who attended her. went up directly to the room where she lay, and w met at the entrance by my friend, who, notwi standing his thoughts had been composed a little before, at the sight of me turned away his face wept. The little family of children renewed u expressions of their sorrow according to their sever ages and degrees of understanding. The elde daughter was in tears, busied in attendance u her mother; others were kneeling about the be side: and what troubled me most was, to see little boy, who was too young to know the reaso weeping only because his sisters did. The only o in the room who seemed resigned and comf was the dying person. At my approach to t side, she told me, with a low broken voice, "It is kindly done—Take care of your friend——do n go from him!" She had before taken leave of husband and children, in a manner proper for solemn a parting, and with a gracefulness pe to a woman of her character. My heart t to in pieces, to see the husband on one side sup and keeping down the swellings of his grief, i fear of disturbing her in her last moments; and t wife even at that time concealing the pains she e dured, for fear of increasing his affliction. kept her eyes upon him for some moments after s grew speechless, and soon after closed them f ever. In the moment of her departure, my frien who had thus far commanded himself, gave a de groan, and fell into a swoon by her bed-side. T distraction of the children, who thought th both their parents expiring together, and now lyi dead before them, would have melted the hardc heart; but they soon perceived their father recov whom I helped to remove into another room, wi a resolution to accompany him until the first pan

of his affliction were abated. I knew consolation would now be impertinent; and, therefore, contented myself to sit by him, and condole with him in silence. For I shall here use the method of an ancient author, who, in one of his epistles, relating the virtues and death of Macrinus's wife, expresses himself thus: "I shall suspend my advice to this best of friends, until he is made capable of receiving it by those three great remedies, the necessity of submission, length of time, and satiety of grief."

In the mean time, I cannot but consider, with much commiseration, the melancholy state of one who has had such a part of himself torn from him, and which he misses in every circumstance of life. His condition is like that of one who has lately lost his right arm, and is every moment offering to help himself with it. He does not appear to himself the same person in his house, at his table, in company, or in retirement; and loses the relish of all the pleasures and diversions that were before entertaining to him by her participation of them. The most agreeable objects recall the sorrow for her with whom he used to enjoy them. This additional satisfaction, from the taste of pleasures in the society of one we love, is admirably described by Milton, who represents Eve, though in Paradise itself, no further pleased with the beautiful objects around her, than as she sees them in company with Adam, in that passage so inexpressibly charming:

> "With thee conversing, I forget all time;
> All seasons, and their change; all please alike.
> Sweet is the breath of morn, her rising sweet
> With charm of earliest birds; pleasant the sun,
> When first on this delightful land he spreads
> His orient beams, on herb, tree, fruit, and flower,
> Glistering with dew; fragrant the fertile earth

After soft showers; and sweet the coming on
Of grateful evening mild; the silent night,
With this her solemn bird, and this fair moon,
And these the gems of Heaven, her starry train.
But neither breath of morn when she ascends
With charm of earliest birds; nor rising sun
On this delightful land; nor herb, fruit, flower,
Glistering with dew; nor fragrance after showers;
Nor grateful evening mild; nor silent night,
With this her solemn bird, nor walk by moon,
Or glittering star-light, without thee is sweet."

The variety of images in this passage is infini pleasing; and the recapitulation of each partic image, with a little varying of the expression, m one of the finest turns of words that I have ever which I rather mention, because *Mr.* Dryc said, in his preface to Juvenal, that he coulu r with no turn of words in Milton.

It may be further observed, that though sweetness of these verses has something in it pastoral, yet it excels the ordinary kind, as as the scene of it is above an ordinary field or dow. I might here, since I am accidentally lea this subject, show several passages in Milton have as excellent turns of this nature as any of English poets whatsoever; but shall only that which follows, in which he describes the angels engaged in the intricate disputes of pre tination, free-will, and fore-knowledge; and, humour the perplexity, makes a kind of labyr in the very words that describe it.

"Others apart sat on a hill retir'd,
In thoughts more elevate, and reason'd high
Of providence, fore-knowledge, will, and fate,
Fix'd fate, free-will, fore-knowledge absolute,
And found no end, in wandering mazes lost."

№ 115. TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1709-10.

——Novum intervenit vitium et calamitas,
Ut neque spectari, neque cognosci potuerit:
Ita populus studio stupidus in funambulo
Animum occuparat. TER. Prol. de Hecyra.

A tumult so uncommon interven'd,
As neither could be seen, nor understood:
So taken were the people, so engag'd
With a rope-dancer! COLMAN.

Sheer-lane, January 2.

I WENT on Friday last to the opera, and was surprised to find a thin house at so noble an entertainment, until I heard that the tumbler was not to make his appearance that night. For my own part, I was fully satisfied with the sight of an actor, who, by the grace and propriety of his action and gesture, does honour to an human figure, as much as the other vilifies and degrades it. Every one will easily imagine I mean Signior Nicolini, who sets off the character he bears in an opera by his action, as much as he does the words of it by his voice. Every limb, and every finger, contributes to the part he acts, insomuch that a deaf man might go along with him in the sense of it. There is scarce a beautiful posture in an old statue which he does not plant himself in, as the different circumstances of the story give occasion for it. He performs the most ordinary action in a manner suitable to the greatness of his character, and shows the prince even in the giving of a letter, or dispatching of a

message. Our best actors are somewhat at a loss to support themselves with proper gesture, as they move from any considerable distance to the front of the stage; but I have seen the person of whom I am now speaking enter alone at the remotest part of it, and advance from it, with such greatness of air and mien, as seemed to fill the stage, and at the same time commanded the attention of the audience with the majesty of his appearance. But, notwithstanding the dignity and elegance of this entertainment, I find, for some nights past, that Punchinello has robbed this gentleman of the greater part of his female spectators. The truth of it is, I find it so very hard a task to keep that sex under any manner of government, that I have often resolved to give them over entirely, and leave them to their own inventions. I was in hopes that I had brought them to some order, and was employing my thoughts on the reformation of their petticoats, when on a sudden I received information from all parts, that they run gadding after a puppet-show. I know very well, that what I here say will be thought by some malicious persons to flow from envy to Mr. Powell; for which reason I shall set the late dispute between us in a true light. Mr. Powell and I had some difference about four months ago, which we managed by way of letter, as learned men ought to do; and I was very well contented to bear such sarcasms as he was pleased to throw upon me, and answered them with the same freedom. In the midst of this our misunderstanding and correspondence, I happened to give the world an account of the order of Esquires; upon which Mr. Powell was so disingenuous, as to make one of his puppets, I wish I knew which of them it was, declare, by way of prologue, "That one Isaac Bickerstaff, a pretended esquire, had written a scurrilous piece,

to the dishonour of that rank of men;" and then, with more art than honesty, concluded, "that all the esquires in the pit were abused by his antagonist as much as he was." This public accusation made all the esquires of that county, and several of other parts, my professed enemies. I do not in the least question but that he will proceed in his hostilities; and I am informed, that part of his design in coming to town, was to carry the war into my own quarters. I do, therefore, solemnly declare, notwithstanding that I am a great lover of art and ingenuity, that if I hear he opens any of his people's mouths against me, I shall not fail to write a critique upon his whole performance; for I must confess, that I have naturally so strong a desire of praise, that I cannot bear reproach, though from a piece of timber. As for Punch, who takes all opportunities of bespattering me, I know very well his original, and have been assured by the joiner who put him together, "That he was in long dispute with himself, whether he should turn him into several pegs and utensils, or make him the man he is." The same person confessed to me, "That he had once actually laid aside his head for a nut cracker." As for his scolding wife, however she may value herself at present, it is very well known, that she is but a piece of crab-tree. This artificer further whispered in my ear, "That all his courtiers and nobles were taken out of a quick-set hedge not far from Islington; and that doctor Faustus himself, who is now so great a conjurer, is supposed to have learned his whole art from an old woman in that neighbourhood, whom he long served in the figure of a broom-staff."

But, perhaps, it may look trivial to insist so much upon men's persons; I shall, therefore, turn my thoughts rather to examine their behaviour, and

consider, whether the several parts are
to that character which Mr. Powell piques
upon, of an able and judicious dramatist.
for this purpose provided myself with the
above twenty French critics, and shall exami
the rules which they have laid down upon the
the stage, whether the unity of time, place,
action, be rightly observed in any one of this
brated author's productions; as also, whether in
parts of his several actors, and that of Punch in
ticular, there is not sometimes an impropriety of
timents, and an impurity of diction.

White's Chocolate-house, January 2.

I came in here to-day at an hour when only the dead appear in places of resort and gallantry, and saw *hung up the escutcheon* of Sir Hannibal, a gentleman who used to frequent this place, and was taken up and interred by the company of Upholders, as having been seen here at an unlicensed hour. The coat of the deceased is, three bowls and a jack in a green field; the crest, a dice-box, with the king of clubs and pam for supporters. Some days ago the body was carried out of town with
pomp and ceremony, in order to be buried wi
ancestors at the *Peak*. It is a maxim in morality, that we are to speak nothing but truth of the living, nothing but good of the dead. As I have carefully observed the first during his life-time, I shall acquit myself as to the latter now he is deceased.

He was knighted very young, not in the ordinary form, but by the common consent of mankind.

He was in his person between round and square; in the motion and gesture of his body he was unaffected and free, as not having too great a respect for superiors. He was in his discourse bold and intrepid; and as every one has an excellence, as well

as a failing, which distinguishes him from other eloquence was his predominant quality, which d to so great perfection, that it was easier to him to speak, than to hold his tongue. This some- s exposed him to the derision of men who had ch less parts than himself: and indeed his great volubility, and inimitable manner of speaking, as well as the great courage he showed on those occasions, did sometimes betray him into that figure of speech which is commonly distinguished by the name of *Gasconade*. To mention no other, he professed in this very place, some days before he died, "that he would be one of the six that would undertake to assault me;" for which reason I have had his figure upon my wall until the hour of his death: and am resolved for the future to bury every one forthwith who I hear has an intention to kill me.

Since I am upon the subject of my adversaries, I shall here publish a short letter, which I have received from a well-wisher, and is as follows:

"SAGE SIR,

"You cannot but know, there are many scribblers, and others, who revile you and your writings. It is wondered that you do not exert yourself, and crush them at once. I am, Sir, with great respect,

Your most humble admirer and disciple."

In answer to this, I shall act like my predecessor Æsop, and give him a fable instead of a reply.

It happened one day, as a stout and honest mastiff, that guarded the village where he lived against thieves and robbers, was very gravely walking with one of his puppies by his side, all the little dogs in the street gathered about him, and barked at him. The little puppy was so offended at this affront done to his sire, that he asked him

why he would not fall upon them and tear t pieces? To which the sire answered, with g composure of mind, "If there were no cur, s should be no mastiff."

N° 116. THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 1709-10.

Pars minima est ipsa puella sui. OVID.

The young lady is the least part of herself.

Sheer-lane, January 4.

THE court being prepared for proceeding on cause of the petticoat, I gave orders to bring in a criminal, who was taken up as she went out of the puppet-show about three nights ago, and was now standing in the street, with a great concourse of people about her. Word was brought me, that she had endeavoured twice or thrice to come in, but could not do it by reason of her petticoat, which was too large for the entrance of my house, though I had ordered both the folding doors to be thrown open for its reception. Upon this, I desired the jury of matrons who stood at my right hand, to inform themselves of her condition, and know whether there were any private reasons why she might not make her appearance separate from her petticoat. This was managed with great discretion, and had such an effect, that upon the return of the verdict from the bench of matrons, I issued out an order forthwith, "that the criminal should be stripped of her incumbrances, until she became little enough to

enter my house." I had before given directions for an engine of several legs, that could contract or open itself like the top of an *umbrella*, in order to place the petticoat upon it, by which means I might take a leisurely survey of it, as it should appear in its proper dimensions. This was all done accordingly; and forthwith, upon the closing of the engine, the petticoat was brought into court. I then directed the machine to be set upon the table and dilated in such a manner as to show the garment in its utmost circumference; but my great hall was too narrow for the experiment; for before it was half unfolded, it described so immoderate a circle, that the lower part of it brushed upon my face as I sat in my chair of judicature. I then inquired for the person that belonged to the petticoat; and, to my great surprise, was directed to a very beautiful young damsel, with so pretty a face and shape, that I bid her come out of the crowd, and seated her upon a little *crock* at my left hand. "My pretty maid," said I, "do you own yourself to have been the inhabitant of the garment before us?" The girl, I found, had good sense, and told me with a smile, that, "notwithstanding it was her own petticoat, she should be very glad to see an example made of it; and that she wore it for no other reason, but that she had a mind to look as big and burly as other persons of her quality; that she had kept out of it as long as she could, and until she began to appear little in the eyes of her acquaintance; that, if she laid it aside, people would think she was not made like other women." I always give great allowances to the fair sex upon account of the fashion, and, therefore, was not displeased with the defence of my pretty criminal. I then ordered the vest which stood before us to be drawn up by a pulley to the top of my great hall, and afterwards to be spread open by the engine it was

placed upon, in such a manner, that it very splendid and ample canopy over our and covered the whole court of judicature kind of silken rotunda, in its form not cupola of Saint Paul's. I entered up cause with great satisfaction as I sat under the dow of it.

The counsel for the petticoat were now c and ordered to produce what they had to the popular cry which was raised agai answered the objections with great stre lidity of argument, and expatiated in ve rangues, which they did not fail to set off and *low*, if I may be allowed the metaphor, with periodical sentences and turns of oratory. T arguments for their client were taken, the great benefit that might arise to our w manufactory from this invention, which was lated as follows. The common petticoat above four yards in the circumference; whereas over our heads had more in the semi-diameter; that, by allowing it twenty-four yards in the ci ference, the five millions of woollen petticoats according to Sir William Petty, supposing w ought to be supposed in a well-governed state, all petticoats are made of that stuff, would to thirty millions of those of the ancient mo prodigious improvement of the woollen trade! a what could not fail to sink the power of France a few years.

To introduce the second argument, they begg leave to read a petition of the ropemakers, where it was represented, "that the demand for and the price of them, were much risen since fashion came up." At this, all the company w were present lifted up their eyes into the vault; a I must confess, we did discover many traces of cor

age, which were interwoven in the stiffening of the drapery.

A third argument was founded upon a petition of the Greenland trade, which likewise represented the great consumption of whalebone which would be occasioned by the present fashion, and the benefit which would thereby accrue to that branch of the British trade.

To conclude, they gently touched upon the weight and unwieldiness of the garment, which they insinuated might be of great use to preserve the honour of families.

These arguments would have wrought very much upon me, as I then told the company in a long and elaborate discourse, had I not considered the great and additional expense which such fashions would bring upon fathers and husbands; and, therefore, by no means to be thought of until some years after a peace. I further urged, that it would be a prejudice to the ladies themselves, who could never expect to have any money in the pocket, if they laid out so much on the petticoat. To this I added, the great temptation it might give to virgins, of acting in security like married women, and by that means give a check to matrimony, an institution always encouraged by wise societies.

At the same time, in answer to the several petitions produced on that side, I showed one subscribed by the women of several persons of quality, humbly setting forth, "that, since the introduction of this mode, their respective ladies had, instead of bestowing on them their cast gowns, cut them into shreds, and mixed them with the cordage and buckram, to complete the stiffening of their under petticoats." For which, and sundry other reasons, I pronounced the petticoat a forfeiture: but, to show that I did not make that judgment for the sake of *filthy*

lucre, I ordered it to be folded up, and sent a present to a widow-gentlewoman, who has five daughters; desiring she would make each of them a petticoat out of it, and send me back the remainder, which I design to cut into stomachers, caps, facings of my waistcoat-sleeves, and other ornaments suitable to my age and quality.

I would not be understood, that, while I discard this monstrous invention, I am an enemy to the proper ornaments of the fair sex. On the contrary, as the hand of nature has poured on them such a profusion of charms and graces, and sent them into the world more amiable and finished than the rest of her works; so I would have them bestow upon themselves all the additional beauties that art can supply them with, provided it does not interfere with disguise, or pervert those of nature.

I consider woman as a beautiful romantic ar that may be adorned with furs and feathers, p and diamonds, ores and silks. The lynx shall its skin at her feet to make her a tippet; the cock, parrot, and swan shall *pay contri* to her muff; the sea shall be searched for shells, and the rocks for gems; and every part of nature furn out its share towards the embellishment of a c that is the most consummate work of it. All I shall indulge them in; but as for the petticoat have been speaking of, I neither can nor allow it.

117. SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1709-10.

Durate, et vosmet rebus servate secundis.
VIRG. Æn. i. 211.

Endure the hardships of your present state,
Live, and reserve yourselves for better fate.
DRYDEN.

Sheer-lane, January 6.

When I look into the frame and constitution of my own mind, there is no part of it which I observe with greater satisfaction, than that tenderness and concern which it bears for the good and happiness of mankind. My own circumstances are indeed so narrow and scanty, that I should taste but very little pleasure, could I receive it only from those enjoyments which are in my own possession! but by this great incture of humanity, which I find in all my thoughts nd reflexions, I am happier than any single person an be, with all the wealth, strength, beauty, and uccess, that can be conferred upon a mortal, if he nly relishes such a proportion of these blessings as s vested in himself, and in his own private property. By this means, every man that does himself any real ervice does me a kindness. I come in for my share n all the good that happens to a man of merit and irtue, and partake of many gifts of fortune and ower that I was never born to. There is nothing n particular in which I so much rejoice as the deiverance of good and generous spirits out of dangers, difficulties, and distresses. And because the world

does not supply instances of this kind to fu
sufficient entertainments for such an hun ny
benevolence of temper, I have ever dem se
reading the history of ages past which d s
ther into a narrow compass the great occur
and events that are but thinly sown in those
of time, which lie within our own knowl
observation. When I see the life of a grea
who has deserved well of his country, after
struggled through all the oppositions of
and envy, breaking out with lustre,
forth in all the splendor of success, I close my
and am an happy man for a whole evening.

But since in history events are of a mi d na
and often happen alike to the worthless a the
serving, insomuch that we frequently see a
man dying in the midst of disappointments
lamities, and the vicious ending their days in
perity and peace; I love to amuse myself wi
accounts I meet with in fabulous histories a
tions: for in this kind of writing we have a
the pleasure of seeing vice punished, and vi
warded. Indeed, were we able to view a
the whole circle of his existence, we should ha
satisfaction of seeing it close with happi n
sery, according to his proper merit: but tuo
view of him is interrupted by death before
nishing of his adventures, if I may so speak, we
be sure that the conclusion and catastrophe
gether suitable to his behaviour. On the contr
the whole being of a man, considered as an
a knight-errant, is comprehended within the
of a poem or romance, and, therefore, always
to our satisfaction; so that inventions of this
are like food and exercise to a good-natured
sition, which they please and gratify at s
time that they nourish and strengthen. The

affliction is in which we see our favourites in
relations engaged, the greater is the pleasure
ve e in seeing them relieved.

Among the many feigned histories which I have
t with in my reading, there is none in which the
ro's perplexity is greater, and the winding out of
t more difficult, than that in a *French author* whose
I have forgot. It so happens, that the hero's
ess was the sister of his most intimate friend,
for certain reasons was given out to be dead,
le he was preparing to leave his country in quest
adventures. The hero having heard of his friend's
leath, immediately repaired to his mistress, to con-
with her, and comfort her. Upon his arrival
ner garden, he discovered at a distance a man
ed in her arms, and embraced with the most
nearing tenderness. What should he do? It did
t consist with the gentleness of a knight-errant
ther to kill his mistress, or the man whom she was
leased to favour. At the same time, it would have
poiled a romance, should he have laid violent hands
n himself. In short, he immediately entered upon
s adventures; and after a long series of exploits,
ound out by degrees that the person he saw in his
nistress's arms was her own brother, taking leave
f her before he left his country, and the embrace
he gave him nothing else but the affectionate fare-
ll of a sister: so that he had at once the two great-
satisfactions that could enter into the heart of
n, in finding his friend alive whom he thought
ead; and his mistress faithful, whom he had be-
ieved inconstant.

There are indeed some disasters so very fatal, that
t mpossible for any accidents to rectify them.
nis kind was that of poor Lucretia; and yet we
Ovid has found an expedient even in this case,
describes a beautiful and royal virgin walking

on the sea-shore, where she was discovered by Neptune, and violated after a long and unsuccessful importunity. To mitigate her sorrow, he offers her whatever she could wish for. Never certainly was the wit of woman more puzzled in finding out a stratagem to retrieve her honour. Had she desired to be changed into a stock or stone, a beast, fish, or fowl, she would have been a loser by it: or had she desired to have been made a sea-nymph, or a goddess, her immortality would but have perpetuated her disgrace. "Give me, therefore," said she, "such a shape as may make me incapable of suffering again the like calamity, or of being reproached for what I have already suffered." To be short, she was turned into a man, and, by that only means, avoided the danger and imputation she so much dreaded.

I was once myself in agonies of grief that are unutterable, and in so great a distraction of mind, that I thought myself even out of the possibility of receiving comfort. The occasion was as follows. When I was a youth in a part of the army which was then quartered at Dover, I fell in love with an agreeable young woman, of a good family in those parts, and had the satisfaction of seeing my addresses kindly received, which occasioned the perplexity I am going to relate.

We were in a calm evening diverting ourselves upon the top of the cliff with the prospect of the sea, and trifling away the time in such little fondnesses as are most ridiculous to people in business, and most agreeable to those in love.

In the midst of these our innocent endearments, she snatched a paper of verses out of my hand, and ran away with them. I was following her when on a sudden the ground, though at a considerable distance from the verge of the precipice, sunk under

', and threw her down from so prodigious an ight upon such a range of rocks, as would have ashed her into ten thousand pieces, had her body een made of adamant. It is much easier for my eader to imagine my state of mind upon such an occasion, than for me to express it. I said to myself, t is not in the power of heaven to relieve me! when awaked, equally transported and astonished, to ee myself drawn out of an affliction which, the ery moment before, appeared to me altogether nextricable.

The impressions of grief and horror were so lively n this occasion, that while they lasted they made more miserable than I was at the real death of nis beloved person, which happened a few months fter, at a time when the match between us was oncluded; inasmuch as the imaginary death was unimely, and I myself in a sort an accessary; whereas ier real decease had at least these alleviations, of eing natural and inevitable.

The memory of the dream I have related still wells so strongly upon me, that I can never read he description of Dover-cliff in Shakspeare's tragedy of King Lear, without a fresh sense of my escape. The prospect from that place is drawn with such roper incidents, that whoever can read it without rowing giddy must have a good head, or a very one.

"Come on, Sir, here's the place: stand still! how fearful
And dizzy 'tis to cast one's eyes so low!
The crows and *choughs* that *wing* the midway air,
Show scarce as gross as beetles. Half way down
Hangs one that gathers samphire—Dreadful trade!
Methinks he seems no bigger than his head.
The fishermen that walk upon the beach
Appear like mice, and yon tall anchoring bark

Diminish'd to her *boat*; her *boat*! a buoy
Almost too small for sight. The murmuring surge,
That on th'unnumber'd *idle pebbles* beat,
Cannot be heard so high. I'll look no more,
Lest my brain turn."

N° 118. TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 1709-

Lusisti satis, edisti satis, atque bibisti.
Tempus abire tibi——— HOR. 2 Ep. ii. 214.

Already glutted with a farce of age,
'Tis time for thee to quit the wanton stage.
FRANCIS.

From my own Apartment, January 8.

I THOUGHT to have given over my prosecution of the dead for this season, having by me many other projects for the reformation of mankind; but I have received so many complaints from such different hands, that I shall disoblige multitudes of my correspondents, if I do not take notice of them. Some of the deceased, who, I thought, had been laid quietly in their graves, are such hobgoblins in public assemblies, that I must be forced to deal with them as Evander did with his triple-lived adversary; who, according to Virgil, was forced to kill him thrice over, before he could dispatch him.

Ter letho sternendus erat———
———Thrice I sent him to the Stygian shore.

I am likewise informed, that several wives of my dead men have, since the decease of their husbands, been seen in many public places, without mourning or regard to common decency.

I am further advised, that several of the defunct, contrary to the woollen act, presume to dress themselves in lace, embroidery, silks, muslins, and other naments forbidden to persons in their condition. nese and other the like informations moving me hereunto, I must desire, for distinction sake, and to conclude this subject for ever, that when any of hese posthumous persons appear, or are spoken of, t their wives may be called *widows;* their houses, *lchres;* their chariots, *hearses;* and their garnts, *flannel:* on which condition, they shall be nowed all the conveniences that dead men can in eason desire.

As I was writing this morning on this subject, I eceived the following letter:

" Mr. BICKERSTAFF, *From the banks of Styx.*

" I must confess, I treated you very scurrilously when you first sent me hither; but you have dispatched such multitudes after me to keep me in countenance, that I am very well reconciled both to you and my condition. We live very lovingly together; for as death makes us all equal, it makes us very much delight in one another's company. Our time passes away much after the same manner as it did when we were among you; eating, drinking, and sleeping are our chief diversions. Our Quidnuncs between whiles go to a coffee-house, where they have several warm liquors made of the waters of Lethe, with very good poppy-tea. We that are the sprightly geniuses of the place refresh ourselves frequently with a bottle of mum, and tell stories until we fall asleep. You would do well to send

among us Mr. Dodwell's book against the imm
tality of the soul, which would be of great consola
to our whole fraternity, who would be very gla
find that they are dead for good and all, and w
in particular make me rest for ever

Yours,

JOHN PARTR

"P. S. Sir James is just arrived here in
health."

The foregoing letter was the more pleasing to
because I perceive some little symptoms in it
resuscitation; and having lately seen the predi
of this author, which are written in a true Pr
spirit of prophecy, and a particular zeal agau
French king, I have some thoughts of sending
him from the banks of Styx, and reinstating
his own house, at the sign of the Globe in Salisu
street. For the encouragement of him and oth
I shall offer to their consideration a letter, wh
gives me an account of the revival of one of t
brethren.

"SIR, *December*

"I have perused your Tatler of this day, and l
wept over it with great pleasure; I wish you w
be more frequent in your family-pieces. For
consider you under the notion of a great desig
I think these are not your least valuable perfo
ances. I am glad to find you have given over
face-painting for some time, because I think
have employed yourself more in grotesque fig
than in beauties; for which reason I would ra
see you work upon history-pieces, than on sii
portraits. Your several draughts of dead men
pear to me as pictures of still-life, and have d
great good in the place where I live. The esq

a neighbouring village, who had been a long time the number of non-entities, is entirely recovered them. For these several years past, there was t an hare in the county that could be at rest for n; and I think, the greatest exploit he ever boasted was, that when he was high sheriff of the county, hunted a fox so far, that he could not follow him r further by the laws of the land. All the hours spent at home, were in *swelling* himself with tober, and rehearsing the wonders he did in the d. Upon reading your papers, he has sold his gs, shook off his dead companions, looked into estate, got the multiplication-table by heart, paid tithes, and intends to take upon him the office church-warden next year. I wish the same suc- with your other patients, and am, &c."

Ditto, January 9.

When I came home this evening, a very tight ddle-aged woman presented to me the following tition:

To the Worshipful Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire, Censor of Great-Britain.

The humble petition of Penelope Prim, Widow,

" Showeth,

" That your petitioner was bred a clear-starcher d sempstress, and for many years worked to the xchange, and to several aldermen's wives, law- rs' clerks, and merchants' apprentices.

" That through the scarcity caused by regrators of read-corn, of which starch is made, and the gentry's moderate frequenting the operas, the ladies, to ve charges, have their heads washed at home, and e beaux put out their linen to common laun- resses. So that your petitioner has little or no work

at her trade: for want of which, she is reduce
such necessity, that she and her seven fathe
children must inevitably perish, unless relieved
your worship.

" That your petitioner is informed, that in
tempt of your judgment pronounced on T
the third instant against the new-fashioned
coat, or *old-fashioned fardingal*, the lad
to go on in that dress. And since it is pr
your worship will not suppress them by force, y
petitioner humbly desires you would order,
ruffs may be added to the dress; and that she
be heard by her counsel, who has assured your
titioner, he has such cogent reasons to offer to y
court, that *ruffs* and *fardingals* are inseparable,
he questions not but two-thirds of the gr
beauties about town will have cambric collars
their necks before the end of Easter term next.
further says, that the design of our great gr
mothers in this petticoat, was to appear much bi
than the life; for which reason they had
shoulder-blades, like wings, and the *ruff* a
mentioned, to make the upper and lower pa
their bodies appear proportionable; whereas
figure of a woman in the present dress b s,
calls it, the figure of a cone, which, as ne
is the same with that of an extinguisher, wi
little knob at the upper end, and widening do
ward, until it ends in a basis of a most en
circumference.

" Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly pr
that you would restore the *ruff* to the *fardin*
which in their nature ought to be as inseparabl
the two Hungarian twins*.

" And your petitioner shall ever pray.

* Helen and Judith, two united twin-sisters, were bor
Tzoni, in Hungary, Oct. 26, 1701; lived to the age of tw
one, and died in a convent at Peterburg, Feb. 23, 1723.

ve examined into the allegations of this pe-
and find, by several ancient pictures of my
edecessors, particularly that of Dame De-
Bickerstaff, my great grandmother, that the
d *fardingal* are made use of as absolutely ne-
to preserve the symmetry of the figure; and
yramid Bickerstaff, her second sister, is re-
in our family-book, with some observations
lisadvantage, as the first female of our house
covered, to any besides her nurse and her
l, an inch below her chin, or above her
This convinces me of the reasonableness of
rim's demand; and, therefore, I shall not
reviving of any one part of that ancient
cept the whole is complied with. Mrs.
is, therefore, hereby impowered to carry
uffs to such as she shall see in the above-
ed petticoats, and require payment on de-

Mr. Bickerstaff has under consideration the
om the corporation of Colchester of four
l pounds *per annum*, to be paid quarterly,
d that all his dead persons shall be obliged to
e baize of that place.

N°119. THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1709-

In tenui labor.—— VIRG. Georg. IIb. iv. 6.

"In wisdom hast thou made them all."
PSALM civ. 24.

Sheer-lane, January 11.

I HAVE lately applied myself with much sati to the curious discoveries that have been made by help of microscopes, as they are related by s of our own and other nations. There is a great of pleasure in prying into this world of won which nature has laid out of sight, and s dustrious to conceal from us. Philosophy had ra over all the visible creation, and began to objects for her inquiries, when the present age, the invention of glasses, opened a new and ine haustible magazine of rarities, more wonderful amazing than any of those which astonished o forefathers. I was yesterday amusing myself wi speculations of this kind, and reflecting upon m riads of animals that swim in those little seas juices that are contained in the several vessels of human body. While my mind was thus filled wi that secret wonder and delight, I could not but lo upon myself as in an act of devotion, and am ve well pleased with the thought of the great heath anatomist, who calls his description of the parts an human body, "An Hymn to the Supren Being." The reading of the day produced in m imagination an agreeable morning's dream, if I ma call it such; for I am still in doubt whether it pass

my sleeping or waking thoughts. However it is, I fancied that my good genius stood at my d's head, and entertained me with the following course; for, upon my rising, it dwelt so strongly n me, that I writ down the substance of it, if the very words.

"If," said he, "you can be so transported with those productions of nature which are discovered to you by those artificial eyes that are the works of human invention, how great will your surprise be, when you shall have it in your power to model ur own eye as you please, and adapt it to the of objects, which, with all these helps, are by nite degrees too minute for your perception! We are unbodied spirits can sharpen our sight to what degree we think fit, and make the least work of the creation distinct and visible. This gives us such ideas as cannot possibly enter into your present conceptions. There is not the least particle of matter which may not furnish one of us sufficient employment for a whole eternity. We can still divide it, and still open it, and still discover new wonders of Providence, as we look into the different texture of its parts, and meet with beds of vegetables, minerals, and metallic mixtures, and several kinds of animals that lie hid, and as it were lost in such an endless fund of matter. I find you are surprised at this discourse; but, as your reason tells you there are infinite parts in the smallest portion of matter, it will likewise convince you, that there is as great a variety of secrets, and as much room for discoveries, in a particle no bigger than the point of a pin, as in the globe of the whole earth. Your microscopes bring to sight shoals of living creatures in a spoonful of vinegar; but we who can distinguish them in their different magnitudes, see among them several huge Leviathans that terrify the little

fry of animals about them, and take their past
in an ocean, or the great deep." I could n
smile at this part of his relation, and told hi
doubted not but he could give me the history
veral invisible giants, accompanied with th
spective dwarfs, in case that any of these
beings are of an human shape." "You may
yourself," said he, "that we see in these l
mals different natures, instincts, and mo
which correspond to what you observe in e
of bigger dimensions. We descry millio
species subsisted on a green leaf, which your
represent only in crowds and swarm. Wh
pears to your eye but as hair or do
surface of it, we find to be woods
habited by beasts of prey, that are
those their little haunts, as lions and tigers
deserts of Lybia." I was much delighted
discourse, and could not forbear telling h
I should be wonderfully pleased to see a
history of imperceptibles, containing a true
of such vegetables and animals as grow and li
of sight." "Such disquisitions," answer
very suitable to reasonable creatures; and yo
be sure, there are many curious spirits amo
who employ themselves in such amusements.
as our hands, and all our senses, may be so
what degree of strength and delicacy we
the same manner as our sight, we can
experiments we are inclined to, how small
the matter be in which we make them. I
been present at the dissection of a mite, and
seen the skeleton of a flea. I have be
forest of numberless trees, which have
out of an acorn. Your microscope can
it a complete oak in miniature; and cou
all your organs as we do, you might pluck an

from this little oak, which contains another tree; and so proceed from tree to tree, as long as you would think fit to continue your disquisitions. It is almost impossible," added he, "to talk of things so remote from common life, and the ordinary notions which mankind receive from blunt and gross organs of sense, without appearing extravagant and ridiculous. You have often seen a dog opened, to observe the circulation of the blood, or make any other useful inquiry; and yet would be tempted to laugh if I should tell you, that a circle of much greater philosophers than any of the Royal Society, were present at the cutting up one of those little animals which we find in the blue of a plumb: that was tied down alive before them; and that they observed the palpitations of the heart, the course of the blood, the working of the muscles, and the convulsions in the several limbs, with great accuracy and improvement." "I must confess," said I, "for my own part, I go along with you in all your discoveries with great pleasure: but it is certain, they are too fine for the gross of mankind, who are more struck with the description of every thing that is great and bulky. Accordingly we find the best judge of human nature setting forth his wisdom, not in the formation of these minute animals, though indeed no less wonderful than the other, but in that of the Leviathan and Behemoth, the Horse and the Crocodile." "Your observation," said he, "is very just; and I must acknowledge, for my own part, that although it is with much delight that I see the traces of Providence in these instances, I still take greater pleasure in considering the works of the creation in their immensity, than in their minuteness. For this reason, I rejoice when I strengthen my sight so as to make it pierce into the most remote spaces, and take a view of

those heavenly bodies which lie out of the reach of human eyes, though assisted by telescopes. What you look upon as one confused white in the milky-way, appears to me a long track of heavens, distinguished by stars that are ranged in proper figures and constellations. While you are admiring the sky in a starry night, I am entertained with a variety of worlds and suns placed one above another, and rising up to such an immense distance, that no created eye can see an end of them."

The latter part of his discourse flung me into such an astonishment, that he had been silent for some time before I took notice of it; when on a sudden I started up and drew my curtains, to look if any one was near me, but saw nobody, and cannot tell to this moment whether it was my good genius or a dream that left me.

N°120. SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 1709-10.

———Velut silvis, ubi passim
Palantes error certo de tramite pellit;
Ille sinistrorsum, hic dextrorsum abit.
HOR. II. Sat. iii. 48.

When, in a wood, we leave the certain way,
One error fools us, though we various stray,
Some to the left, and some to t'other side.
FRANCIS.

Sheer-lane, January 13.

INSTEAD of considering any particular passion or character in any one set of men, my thoughts were last night employed on the contemplation of human

life in general; and truly it appears to me, that the whole species are hurried on by the same desires, and engaged in the same pursuits, according to the different stages and divisions of life. Youth is devoted to lust, middle age to ambition, old age to avarice. These are the three general motives and principles of action both in good and bad men; though it must be acknowledged, that they change their names, and refine their natures, according to the temper of the person whom they direct and animate. For with the good, lust becomes virtuous love; ambition, true honour; and avarice, the care of posterity. This scheme of thought amused me very agreeably until I retired to rest, and afterwards formed itself into a pleasing and regular vision, which I shall describe in all its circumstances, as the objects presented themselves, whether in a serious or ridiculous manner.

I dreamed that I was in a wood, of so prodigious an extent, and cut into such a variety of walks and alleys, that all mankind were lost and bewildered in it. After having wandered up and down some time, I came into the centre of it, which opened into a wide plain, filled with multitudes of both sexes. I here discovered three great roads, very wide and long, that led into three different parts of the forest. On a sudden, the whole multitude broke into three parts, according to their different ages, and marched in their respective bodies into the three great roads that lay before them. As I had a mind to know how each of these roads terminated, and whither they would lead those who passed through them, I joined myself with the assembly that were in the flower and vigour of their age, and called themselves "the band of lovers." I found, to my great surprise, that several old men besides myself had intruded into this agreeable company; as I had be-

fore observed, there were some young men who had united themselves to "the band of misers," and were walking up the path of avarice; though both made a very ridiculous figure, and were as much laughed at by those they joined, as by those they forsook. The walk which we marched up, for thickness of shades, embroidery of flowers, and melody of birds, with the distant purling of streams and falls of water, was so wonderfully delightful, that it charmed our senses, and intoxicated our minds with pleasure. We had not been long here before every man singled out some woman, to whom he offered his addresses, and professed himself a lover; when on a sudden we perceived this delicious walk to grow more narrow as we advanced in it, until it ended in many intricate thickets, mazes, and labyrinths, that were so mixed with roses and brambles, brakes of thorns, and beds of flowers, rocky paths, and pleasing grottos, that it was hard to say, whether it gave greater delight or perplexity to those who travelled in it.

It was here that the lovers began to be eager in their pursuits. Some of their mistresses, who only seemed to retire for the sake of form and decency, led them into plantations that were disposed into regular walks; where, after they had wheeled about in some turns and windings, they suffered themselves to be overtaken, and gave their hands to those who pursued them. Others withdrew from their followers into little wildernesses, where there were so many paths interwoven with each other in so much confusion and irregularity, that several of the lovers quitted the pursuit, or broke their hearts in the chace. It was sometimes very odd to see a man pursuing a fine woman that was following another, whose eye was fixed upon a fourth, that had her own game in view in some other quarter of

wil ks. I could not but observe two things
l o e which I thought very particular. That
eve persons, who stood only at the end of the
v es, and cast a careless eye upon the nymphs
ing their whole flight, often catched them;
n those who pressed them the most warmly,
a all their turns and doubles, were wholly
l: and that some of my own age, who
re at n looked upon with aversion and con-
pt, by being well acquainted with the wilder-
s, and by dodging their women in the particular
ners and alleys of it, catched them in their arms,
took them from those whom they really loved
admired. There was a particular grove, which
called "the labyrinth of coquettes;" where
ny were enticed to the chace, but few returned
h purchase. It was pleasant enough to see a
elebrated beauty, by smiling upon one, casting a
lance upon another, beckoning to a third, and
ipting her charms and graces to the several follies
r those that admired her, drawing into the laby-
inth a whole pack of lovers, that lost themselves
i the maze, and never could find their way out of
t. However, it was some satisfaction to me, to
e many of the fair ones, who had thus deluded
ir followers, and left them among the intricacies
r the labyrinth, obliged, when they came out of it,
o surrender to the first partner that offered himself.
now had crossed over all the difficult and per-
lexed passages that seemed to bound our walk,
hen on the other side of them I saw the same great
oad running on a little way until it was terminated
y two beautiful temples. I stood here for some
me, and saw most of the multitude who had been
ispersed amongst the thickets, coming out two by
wo, and marching up in pairs towards the temples
t stood before us. The structure on the right

hand was, as I afterwards found, consecrated
virtuous love, and could not be entered but by
as received a ring, or some other token, f
person who was placed as a guard at the gate
He wore a garland of roses and myrtles on
head, and on his shoulders a robe like an
mantle, white and unspotted all over, ex
only, that where it was clasped at his bre
were two golden turtle-doves that buttoned
their bills, which were wrought in rubies.
was called by the name of Hymen, and was
near the entrance of the temple, in a del
bower, made up of several trees, that were
braced by woodbines, jasmines, and
which were as so many emblems of marr
ornaments to the trunks that supported th
I was single and unaccompanied, I was
mitted to enter the temple, and for that reason
a stranger to all the mysteries that were perfo
in it. I had, however, the curiosity to ob
how the several couples that entered were d
of; which was after the following manner.
were two great gates on the backside of the
at which the whole crowd was let out. At
these gates were two women, extremely
though in a different kind, the one having a
careful and composed air, the other a sort of
and ineffable sweetness in her countenance.
name of the first was Discretion, and of the
Complacency. All who came out of this gate,
put themselves under the direction of th
sisters, were immediately conducted by th
gardens, groves, and meadows, which abound
delights, and were furnished with every thing
could make them the proper seats of hap
The second gate of this temple let out all
couples that were unhappily married, who ca

together with chains, which each of them to break, but could not. Several of these ıch as had never been acquainted with each ɔefore they met in the great walk, or had ɔo well acquainted in the thicket. The en- to this gate was possessed by three sisters, ıined themselves with these wretches, and ned most of their miseries. The youngest sisters was known by the name of Levity, ɾith the innocence of a virgin, had the dress haviour of a harlot. The name of the se- ɾas Contention, who bore on her right-arm a ıade of the skin of a porcupine; and on her ɾied a little lap-dog, that barked and snapped y one that passed by her.

eldest of the sisters, who seemed to have an y and imperious air, was always accompanied tawny Cupid, who generally marched before th a little mace on his shoulder, the end of was fashioned into the horns of a stag. Her ıts were yellow, and her complexion pale. ɾes were piercing, but had odd casts in them, particular distemper, which makes persons ıre troubled with it, see objects double. inquiry, I was informed that her name was sy.

ing finished my observations upon this temple s votaries, I repaired to that which stood on 't hand, and was called the "Temple of Lust." ront of it was raised on Corinthian pillars, ıll the meretricious ornaments that accom- that order; whereas, that of the other was sed of the chaste and matron-like Ionic. des of it were adorned with several grotesque ı of goats, sparrows, heathen gods, satyrs, ıonsters made up of half man half beast.

The gates were unguarded, and open to all had a mind to enter. Upon my going in, I f the windows were blinded, and let in only s of twilight, that served to discover a pr number of dark corners and apartments, i the whole temple was divided. I was here with a mixed noise of clamour and jollity. s side of me I heard singing and dancing; on other brawls and clashing of swords. In s was so little pleased with the place, that I v out of it; but found I could not retu by gate where I entered, which was barred a that were come in, with bolts of iron, a of adamant. There was no going back fr temple through the paths of pleasure w ch it. All who passed through the cerem place, went out at an iron wicket, which w by a dreadful giant, called Remorse, that a scourge of scorpions in his hand, and dro into the only outlet from that temple. Th passage so rugged, so uneven, and ch so many thorns and briars, that it w a cholly spectacle to behold the pains and a which both sexes suffered who walked thr The men, though in the prime of their y appeared weak and enfeebled with old age. women wrung their hands, and tore their and several lost their limbs before they could tricate themselves out of the perplexities of path in which they were engaged. The l ng part of this vision, and the adventures I with in the two great roads of Ambition and Av must be the subject of another Paper.

ADVERTISEMENT.

I have this morning received the following Letter from the famous Mr. Thomas Dogget.

" Sir,

" On Monday next will be acted, for my benefit, the Comedy of Love for Love. If you will do me the honour to appear there, I will publish on the bills, that it is to be performed at the request of ic Bickerstaff, Esquire, and question not but it ıı bring me as great an audience, as ever was at house, since *the Morocco Ambassador* was nere.* I am, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,

THOMAS DOGGET."

ng naturally an encourager of wit, as well as ıd to it in the quality of *Censor*, I returned the ıowing answer:

" MR. DOGGET,

" I am very well pleased with the choice you have made of so excellent a play, and have always looked upon you as the best of comedians; I shall therefore come in between the first and second act, and remain in the right-hand box over the pit until the end of the fourth; provided you take care that every thing be rightly prepared for my reception."

* About three years before this time, in 1706, towards the end of April, the Morocco ambassador made his public entry into London, and was admitted to his audience.

N° 121. TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 17

——*Similis tibi, Cynthia, vel tibi, cujus*
Turbavit nitidos extinctus passer ocellos.
JUV. Sat. VI. 7.

Like Cynthia, or the Lesbias of our years,
Who for a sparrow's death dissolve in tears.

From my own Apartment, January 16.

I was recollecting the remainder of my
when my maid came to me, and told me, "
was a gentlewoman below who seemed to be
great trouble, and pressed very much to see
When it lay in my power to remove the d
an unhappy person, I thought I should very n
ploy my time in attending to matters of specul
and therefore desired the lady would walk in.
she entered, I saw her eyes full of tears. How
her grief was not so great as to make her
rules; for she was very long and exact in her civ-
lities, which gave me time to view and cons
her. Her cloaths were very rich, but tarnis
and her words very fine, but ill applied. T
distinctions made me, without hesitation, tho
had never seen her before, ask her, "if
had any commands for me?" She then b
weep afresh, and with many broken sighs told
"that their family was in very great affliction."—I
beseeched her "to compose herself, for that I might
possibly be capable of assisting them."—She then
cast her eye upon my little dog, and was again
transported with too much passion to proceed; but,

ith much ado, she at last gave me to understand, that Cupid, her lady's lap-dog, was dangerously l, and in so bad a condition, that her lady neither aw company, nor went abroad, for which reason he did not come herself to consult me; that, as I ad mentioned with great affection my own dog," here she curtesied, and looking first at the cur, l then on me, said, "indeed I had reason, for e was very pretty) her lady sent to me rather than o any other doctor, and hoped I would not laugh t her sorrow, but send her my advice." I must onfess, I had some indignation to find myself reated like something below a farrier; yet well owing that the best, as well as most tender way, r dealing with a woman, is to fall in with her hu- urs, and by that means to let her see the ab- urdity of them; I proceeded accordingly. "Pray, Madam," said I, "can you give me any methodical ccount of this illness, and how Cupid was first aken?" "Sir," said she, "we have a little igno- ant country girl, who is kept to tend him; she vas recommended to our family by one that my y never saw but once, at a visit; and you know, ons of quality are always inclined to strangers; or I could have helped her to a cousin of my own, ut—". "Good Madam," said I, "you neglect the ccount of the sick body, while you are complain- ng of this girl." "No, no, Sir," said she, "beg- ing your pardon: but it is the general fault of hysicians, they are so in haste, that they never ear out the case. I say, this silly girl, after wash- ng Cupid, let him stand half an hour in the win- ow without his collar, where he catched cold, and n an hour after, began to bark very hoarse. He ad, however, a pretty good night, and we hoped ne danger was over; but for these two nights last ast, neither he nor my lady have slept a wink."

"Has he," said I, "taken any thing?" "No," said she; "but my lady says, he shall t thing that you prescribe, provided you do no use of *Jesuit's powder*, or the *cold-bath*. Cupid," continued she, "has always been p cal; and as he lies under something like a cough, we are afraid it will end in a co I then asked her, "if she had brought *water* to show me?" Upon this, she stared the face, and said, "I am afraid, Mr. Bick you are not serious; but, if you have any that is proper on this occasion, pray let us for my mistress is not to be comforted." Up I paused a little without returning any a after some short silence, I proceeded in ing manner: "I have considered the d distemper, and the constitution of the pat by the best observation that I can make on think it is safest to put him into a course of physic. In the mean time, to remove his ness, it will be the most natural way to his own druggist; for which reason, scribe to him, three mornings successively, powder as will lie on a groat, of that noble re which the apothecaries call *Album Græcum*." hearing this advice, the young woman she knew how ridiculous an errand employed in; and indeed I found by her discourse, that she was an arch ba of a character that is frequent enough of her employment; who are so used to themselves in every thing to the h passions of their mistresses, that they periority of sense to superiority of con are insensibly betrayed into the passions judices of those whom they serve, without themselves leave to consider that they are

gant and ridiculous. However, I thought it very natural, when her eyes were thus open, to see her give a new turn to her discourse, and, from sympathising with her mistress in her follies, to fall a-railing at her. "You cannot imagine," said she, "Mr. Bickerstaff, what a life she makes us lead, for the sake of this little ugly cur. If he dies, we are the most unhappy family in town. She chanced to lose a parrot last year, which, to tell you truly, brought me into her service; for she turned off her woman upon it, who had lived with her ten years, because she neglected to give him water, though every one of the family says she was as innocent of the bird's death, as the babe that is unborn; nay, she told me this very morning, that if Cupid should die, she would send the poor innocent wench I was telling you of to Bridewell, and have the milk-woman tried for her life at the Old-Bailey, for putting water into his milk. In short, she talks like any distracted creature."

"Since it is so, young woman," said I, "I will by no means let you offend her, by staying on this message longer than is absolutely necessary;" and so forced her out.

While I am studying to cure those evils and distresses that are necessary or natural to human life, I find my task growing upon me, since by these accidental cares, and acquired calamities, if I y so call them, my patients contract distempers o which their constitution is of itself a stranger. But this is an evil I have for many years remarked in the fair sex; and as they are by nature very much formed for affection and dalliance, I have observed, that when by too obstinate a cruelty, or any other means, they have disappointed themselves of the proper objects of love, as husbands, or children, h virgins have, exactly at such a year, grown

fond of lap-dogs, parrots, or other animals. I know at this time a celebrated Toast, whom I allow to be one of the most agreeable of her sex, that, in the presence of her admirers, will give a torrent of kisses to her cat, any one of which a Christian would be glad of. I do not at the same time deny, but there are as great enormities of this kind committed by our sex as theirs. A Roman emperor had so very great an esteem for an horse of his, that he had thoughts of making him a *Consul;* and several moderns of that rank of men whom we call Country Esquires, would not scruple to kiss their hounds before all the world, and declare in the presence of their wives, that they had rather salute a favourite of the pack, than the finest woman in England. These voluntary friendships, between animals of different species, seem to arise from instinct; for which reason, I have always looked upon the mutual good-will between the Esquire and the hound, to be of the same nature with that between the lion and the jackall.

The only extravagance of this kind which appears to me excusable, is one that grew out of an excess of gratitude, which I have somewhere met with in the life of a Turkish emperor. His horse had brought him safe out of a field of battle, and from the pursuit of a victorious enemy. As a reward for such his good and faithful service, his master built him a stable of marble, shod him with gold, fed him in an ivory manger, and made him a rack of silver. He annexed to the stable several fields and meadows, lakes, and running streams. At the same time he provided for him a seraglio of mares, the most beautiful that could be found in the whole Ottoman empire. To these were added a suitable train of domestics, consisting of grooms, farriers, rubbers, &c. accommodated with

proper liveries and pensions. In short, nothing was omitted that could contribute to the ease and happiness of his life, who had preserved the emperor's.

*** By reason of the extreme cold, and the changeableness of the weather, I have been prevailed upon to allow the free use of the *fardingal*, until the twentieth of February next ensuing.

№122. THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1709-10.

Cur in Theatrum, Cato severe, venisti?
MART. lib. 1. Ep. 3.

Why to the theatre did Cato come,
With all his boasted gravity? R. WYNNE.

From my own Apartment, January 18.

I FIND it is thought necessary, that I, who have been upon me to censure the irregularities of the age, should give an account of my own actions, when they appear doubtful, or subject to misconstruction. My appearing at the play on Monday * is looked upon as a step in my conduct, which ought to explain, that others may not be misled by my example. It is true in matter of fact, I was present at the ingenious entertainment of that day, but placed myself in a box which was prepared for

* A person dressed for Isaac Bickerstaff did appear at the play-house on this occasion.

me with great civility and distinction. It is of Virgil, when he entered a Roman theatre, t there were many thousand of spectators pres that the whole assembly rose up *to do him h* a respect which was never before paid to any ou the emperor. I must confess, that universal clap, and other testimonies of applause, with which I was received at my first appearance in the theatre of Great Britain, gave me as sensible a delight, as the above-mentioned reception could give to that immortal poet. I should be ungrateful, at the same time, if I did not take this opportunity acknowledging the great civilities that were sho me by Mr. Thomas Dogget, who made his compuments to me between the acts, after a most ingenious and discreet manner; and at the same time communicated to me, "that the company of Upholders desired to receive me at their door at the end of the Hay-market, and to light me home to my lodgings." That part of the ceremony I forbad, and took particular care during the whole play to observe the conduct of the drama, and give no offence by my own behaviour. Here I think it will not be foreign to my character, to lay down the proper duties of an audience, and what is incumbent upon each individual spectator in public diversions of this nature. Every one should on these occasions show his attention, understanding, and virtue. I would undertake to find out all the persons of sense and breeding by the effect of a single sentence, and to distinguish a gentleman as much by his laugh, as his bow. When we see the footman and his lord diverted by the same jest, it very much turns to the diminution of the one, or the honour of the other. But though a man's quality may appear in his understanding and taste, the regard to virtue ought to be the same in all ranks and

ions of men, however they make a pro-
ession of it, under the name of honour, religion,
n ality. When therefore we see any thing di-
t : audience, either in tragedy or comedy, that
s at the duties of civil life, or exposes what
best men in all ages have looked upon as sacred
inviolable; it is the certain sign of a profligate
of men, who are fallen from the virtue of their
thers, and will be contemptible in the eyes of
their posterity. For this reason I took great delight in seeing the generous and disinterested passion of the lovers in this comedy, which stood so many trials, and was proved by such a variety of diverting incidents, received with an universal approbation. This brings to my mind a passage in Cicero, which I could never read without being in love with the virtue of a Roman audience. He there describes the shouts and applauses which the people gave to the persons who acted the parts of Pylades and Orestes, in the noblest occasion that a poet could invent to show friendship in perfection. One of them had forfeited his life by an action which he had committed; and as they stood in judgement before the tyrant, each of them strove who should be the criminal, that he might save the life of his friend. Amidst the vehemence of each asserting himself to be the offender, the Roman audience gave a thunder of applause, and by that means, as the author hints, approved in others what they would have done themselves on the like occasion. Methinks, a people of so much virtue were deservedly placed at the head of mankind: but, alas! pleasures of this nature are not frequently to be met with on the English stage.

The Athenians, at a time when they were the most polite, as well as the most powerful government in the world, made the care of the stage one

of the chief parts of the administration: and I confess, I am astonished at the spirit of virtue which appeared in that people, upon some expressions scene of a famous tragedy; an account of which we have in one of Seneca's Epistles. A covetous person is represented speaking the common sentiments of all who are possessed with that vice in the following soliloquy, which I have translated literally:

"Let me be called a base man, so I am called a rich one. If a man is rich, who asks if he is good? The question is, how much we have, not from whence, or by what means, we have it. Every one has so much merit as he has wealth. For my own part, let me be rich, oh ye gods! or let me die. The man dies happily, who dies increasing his treasure. There is more pleasure in the possession of wealth, than in that of parents, children, wife, or friends."

The audience were very much provoked by the first words of this speech; but when the actor came to the close of it, they could bear no longer. In short, the whole assembly rose up at once in the greatest fury, with a design to pluck him off the stage, and brand the work itself with infamy. In the midst of the tumult, the author came out from behind the scenes, begging the audience to be composed for a little while, and they should see the tragical end which this wretch should come to immediately. The promise of punishment appeased the people, who sat with great attention and pleasure to see an example made of so odious a criminal. It is with shame and concern that I speak it; but I very much question, whether it is possible to make a speech so impious as to raise such a laudable horror and indignation in a modern audience. It is very natural for an author to make ostentation of his

upon doing eminent services to mankind, or
›ting the good of their country. On each side
this great road were several paths, that were also
. out in straight lines, and ran parallel with it.
ese were most of them covered walks, and re-
ed into them men of retired virtue, who proposed
themselves the same end of their journey, though
ney chose to make it in shade and obscurity. The
ices at the extremity of the walk were so con-
ved, that we could not see the "Temple of Honour"
r reason of the "Temple of Virtue," which stood
›re it. At the gates of this temple we were met
r goddess of it, who conducted us into that of
Honour, which was joined to the other edifice by a beautiful triumphal arch, and had no other entrance into it. When the deity of the inner structure had received us, she presented us in a body to a figure that was placed over the high-altar, and was the emblem of Eternity. She sat on a globe in the midst of a golden zodiac, holding the figure of a sun in one hand, and a moon in the other. Her head was veiled, and her feet covered. Our hearts glowed within us, as we stood amidst the sphere of light which this image cast on every side of it.

Having seen all that happened to this band of adventurers, I repaired to another pile of building that ›od within view of the "Temple of Honour," and
. raised in imitation of it, upon the very same mo-
del; but at my approach to it, I found, that the stones were laid together without mortar, and that the whole fabric stood upon so weak a foundation,
it shook with every wind that blew. This was
d the "Temple of Vanity." The goddess of it
in the midst of a great many tapers, that burned day and night, and made her appear much better than she would have done in open day-light. Her whole art was, to shew herself more beautiful and

majestic than she really was. For which reason had painted her face, and wore a cluster of jewels upon her breast: but what I more parti observed was, the breadth of her petticoat, v was made altogether in the fashion of a modern *dingal*. This place was filled with hypocrites, p dants, free-thinkers, and prating politicians; with a rabble of those who have only titles to make great men. Female votaries crouded the choked up the avenues of it, and were number than the sand upon the sea-shore. it my business, in my return towards that part of wood from whence I first set out, to observe walk which led to this temple; for I met in it several who had begun their journey with the band of virtuous persons, and travelled some time in th company; but upon examination I found, that th were several paths which led out of the great into the sides of the wood, and ran into so n crooked turns and windings, that those who travelled through them, often turned their backs upon "Temple of Virtue;" then crossed the straight road, and sometimes marched in it for a little space, the crooked path which they were engaged in, led them into the wood. The several alleys of the wanderers had their particular ornaments. Of hem I could not but take notice of in the walk the mischievous pretenders to politics, which at every turn the figure of a person, whom by the inscription I found to be Machiavel, pointing out the way with an extended finger, like a Mercury.

I was now returned in the same manner as before, with a design to observe carefully every thing that passed in the region of Avarice, and the occurrences in that assembly, which was made up of persons of my own age. This body of travellers had not gone far in the third great road, before it led them insen-

y into a deep valley, in which they journied several days with great toil and uneasiness, and without necessary refreshments of food and sleep. The ıv relief they met with, was in a river that ran gh the bottom of the valley on a bed of golden ı. They often drank of this stream, which had n a particular quality in it, that though it refreshed uem for a time, it rather inflamed than quenched heir thirst. On each side of the river was a range hills full of precious ore; for where the rains had ed off the earth, one might see in several parts uem long veins of gold, and rocks that looked pure silver. We were told, that the deity of ne place had forbidden any of his votaries to dig into the bowels of these hills, or convert the treasures they contained to any use, under pain of starving. At the end of the valley stood the "Temple of Avarice," made after the manner of a fortification, and surrounded with a thousand triple-headed dogs, that were placed there to keep off beggars. At our approach, they all fell a barking, and would have very much terrified us, had not an old woman, who called herself by the forged name of Competency, offered herself for our guide. She carried under her garment a golden bough, which she no sooner held up in her hand, but the dogs lay down, and the gates flew open for our reception. We were led through an hundred iron doors before we entered the temple. At the upper end of it sat the god of Avarice, with a long filthy beard, and a meagre starved countenance; inclosed with heaps of ingots, and pyramids of money, but half naked and shivering with cold. On his right-hand was a fiend called Rapine, and on his left a particular favourite, to whom he had given the title of Parsimony. The first was his collector, and the other his cashier.

There were several long tables placed on each side of the temple, with respective officers attending behind them. Some of these I inquired into. At the first table was kept the "Office of Corruption." Seeing a solicitor extremely busy, and whispering every body that passed by; I kept my eye upon him very attentively, and saw him often going up to a person that had a pen in his hand, with a multiplication table and an almanack before him, which I afterwards heard, was all the learning he was master of. The solicitor would often apply himself to the ear, and at the same time convey money into the hand, for which the other would give him out a piece of paper or parchment, signed and sealed in form. The name of this dexterous and successful servant was Bribery. At the next table was the "Office of Extortion." Behind it sat a person in a bob wig, counting over great sums of money. He gave out little purses to several; who after a short tour brought him, in return, sacks full of the same kind of coin. I saw at the same time a person called Fraud, who sat behind the counter with false scales, light weights and scanty measures; by the skilful application of which instruments, she had got together an immense heap of wealth. It would be endless to name the several officers, or describe the votaries that attend in this temple. There were many old men lying sick and breathless, reposing their heads on bags of money; nay, many of them actually dying, whose very pangs and convulsions, which rendered their wealth useless to them, only made them grasp their money faster. There were some tearing with one hand all things, even to the garments and flesh of many miserable persons who stood before them; and with the other hand, throwing away what they had got, even to harlots, flatterers, and panders that stood behind them.

On a sudden the whole assembly fell a trembling; and upon inquiry, I found that the great room we were in was haunted with a spectre, that many times a day appeared to them, and terrified them to distraction.

In the midst of their terror and amazement, the apparition entered, which I immediately knew to be Poverty. Whether it were by my acquaintance with this phantom, which had rendered the sight of her more familiar to me, or however it was, she did not make so indigent or frightful a figure in my eye, as the god of this loathsome temple. The miserable votaries of this place were, I found, of another mind. Every one fancied himself threatened by the apparition as she stalked about the room, and began to lock their coffers, and tie their bags, with the utmost fear and trembling.

I must confess, I look upon the passion which I saw in this unhappy people, to be of the same nature with those unaccountable antipathies which some persons are born with, or rather as a kind of phrenzy, not unlike that which throws a man into terrors and agonies, at the sight of so useful and innocent a thing as water. The whole assembly was surprised, when, instead of paying my devotions to the deity whom they all adored, they saw me address myself to the phantom.

"Oh Poverty!" said I, "my first petition to thee is, that thou wouldest never appear to me hereafter; but if thou wilt not grant me this, that then thou wouldest not bear a form more terrible than that in which thou appearest to me at present. Let not thy threats and menaces betray me to any thing that is ungrateful, or unjust. Let me not shut my ears to the cries of the needy. Let me not forget the person that has deserved well of me. Let me not, for any fear of thee, desert my friend, my principles, or my

honour. If Wealth is to visit me, and to co h her usual attendants, Vanity and Avarice, ao O Poverty! hasten to my rescue; but bring a with thee the two sisters, in whose company art always cheerful, Liberty and Innocence."

The conclusion of this vision must be deferred to another opportunity.

N° 124. TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1709.

——*Ex humili summa ad fastigia rerum*
Extollit, quoties voluit Fortuna jocari.
JUV. Sat. iii. 39.

Fortune can, for her pleasure, fools advance,
And toss them on the wheels of Chance. DRYDEN.

From my own Apartment, January 23.

I WENT on Saturday last to make a visit in the city; and as I passed through Cheapside, I saw crouds of people turning down towards the Bank, and struggling who should first get their money into the *new-erected lottery.* It gave me a great notion of the credit of our present government and administration, to find people press as eagerly to pay money, as they would to receive it; and, at the same time, a due respect for that body of men who have found out so pleasing an expedient for carrying on the common cause, that they have turned a tax into a diversion. The cheerfulness of spirit, and the hopes of success, which this project has occasioned in this great city,

lightens the burden of the war, and puts me in mind of some games which, they say, were invented by wise men, who were lovers of their country, to make their fellow-citizens undergo the tediousness and fatigues of a long siege. I think there is a kind of homage due to fortune, if I may call it so, and that I should be wanting to myself, if I did not lay in my pretences to her favour, and pay my compliments to her by recommending a ticket to her disposal. For this reason, upon my return to my lodgings, I sold off *a couple of globes and a telescope*, which, with the cash I had by me, raised the sum that was requisite for that purpose. I find by my calculations, that it is but *an hundred and fifty thousand to one*, against my being worth a thousand pounds *per annum* for thirty-two years; and if any *Plumb* in the city will lay me an hundred and fifty thousand pounds to twenty shillings, which is an even bet, that I am not this fortunate man, I will take the wager, and shall look upon him as a man of singular courage and fair dealing; having given orders to Mr. Morphew to subscribe such a policy in my behalf, if any person accepts of the offer. I must confess, I have had such private intimations from the twinkling of a certain star in some of my astronomical observations, that I should be unwilling to take fifty pounds a year for my chance, unless it were to oblige a particular friend. My chief business at present is, to prepare my mind for this change of fortune: for as Seneca, who was a greater moralist, and a much richer man than I shall be with this addition to my present income, says, *Munera ista Fortunæ putatis? Insidiæ sunt.* "What we look upon as gifts and presents of Fortune, are traps and snares which she lays for the unwary." I am arming myself against her favours with all my philosophy; and that I may not lose myself in such a redundance of unnecessary and

superfluous wealth, I have determined to settle an annual pension out of it upon a family of Palatines, and by that means give these unhappy strangers a taste of British property. At the same time, as I have an excellent servant-maid, whose diligence in attending me has increased in proportion to my infirmities, I shall settle upon her the revenue arising out of the ten pounds, and amounting to fourteen shillings *per annum;* with which she may retire into Wales, where she was born a gentlewoman, and pass the remaining part of her days in a condition suitable to her birth and quality. It was impossible for me to make an inspection into my own fortune on this occasion, without seeing, at the same time, the fate of others who are embarked in the same adventure. And indeed it was a great pleasure to me to observe, that the war, which generally impoverishes those who furnish out the expence of it, will by this means give estates to some without making others the poorer for it. I have lately seen several in liveries, who will give as good of their own very suddenly; and took a particular satisfaction in the sight of a young country-wench, whom I this morning passed by as she was whirling her mop, with her petticoats tucked up very agreeably, who, if there is any truth in my art, is within ten months of being the handsomest great fortune in town. I must confess, I was so struck with the foresight of what she is to be, that I treated her accordingly, and said to her, "Pray, young lady, permit me to pass by." I would for this reason advise all masters and mistresses, to carry it with great moderation and condescension towards their servants until next Michaelmas, lest the superiority at that time should be inverted. I must likewise admonish all my brethren and fellow-adventurers, to fill their minds with proper arguments for their support and consolation in

case of ill success. It so happens in this particular, that though the gainers will have reason to rejoice, the losers will have no reason to complain. I remember, the day after the *thousand pound prize* was drawn in the *penny-lottery*, I went to visit a splenetic acquaintance of mine, who was under much dejection, and seemed to me to have suffered some great disappointment. Upon inquiry, I found he had put *two-pence* for himself and his son into the lottery, and that neither of them had drawn the Thousand Pounds. Hereupon this unlucky person took occasion to enumerate the misfortunes of his life, and concluded with telling me, that he never was successful in any of his undertakings." I was forced to comfort him with the common reflexion upon such occasions, "that men of the greatest merit are not always men of the greatest success, and that persons of his character, must not expect to be as happy as fools." I shall proceed in the like manner with my rivals and competitors for the *thousand pounds a year*, which we are now in pursuit of; and that I may give general content to the whole body of candidates, I shall allow all that draw prizes to be *fortunate*, and all that miss them to be *wise*.

I must not here omit to acknowledge, that I have received several letters upon this subject, but find one common error running through them all, which is, that the writers of them believe their fate in these cases depends upon the astrologer, and not upon the stars; as in the following letter from one, who, I fear, flatters himself with hopes of success which are altogether groundless, since he does not seem to me so great a fool as he takes himself to be.

"SIR,

"Coming to town, and finding my friend Mr. Partridge dead and buried, and you the only con-

jurer in repute, I am under a necessity of applyi myself to you for a favour, which nevertheless I co fess it would better become a friend to ask, than o who is, as I am, altogether a stranger to you; b poverty, you know, is impudent; and as that giv me the occasion, so that alone could give me t confidence to be thus importunate.

"I am, Sir, very poor, and very desirous to otherwise: I have got ten pounds, which I o to venture in the lottery now on foot. What I ues of you is, that by your art, you will choose : :l ticket for me as shall arise a *benefit* sufficient to: tain me. I must beg leave to inform you, that I : good for nothing, and must therefore insist upo larger lot than would satisfy those who are capab by their own abilities, of adding something to wl you should assign them; whereas I must expect absolute independent maintenance, because, as I sa I can do nothing. It is possible, after this free cc fession of mine, you may think I do not deserve be rich; but I hope you will likewise observe, I c ill afford to be poor. My own opinion is, that I : well qualified for an estate, and have a good title luck in a lottery; but I resign myself wholly to yc mercy, not without hopes that you will consider, t less I deserve, the greater the generosity in you. you reject me, I have agreed with an acquaintance mine to bury me for my ten pounds. I once m recommend myself to your favour, and bid y adieu!"

I cannot forbear publishing another letter whicl have received, because it redounds to my own cre as well as to that of a very honest footman.

"Mr. Bickerstaff, *Jan.* 23, 1709-

"I am bound in justice to acquaint you, tha put an advertisement into your last Paper abou

atch which was lost, and was brought to me on he very day your Paper came out, by a footman ho told me, that he would have brought it, if he ad not read your discourse of that day against varice; but that since he had read it, he scorned take a reward for doing what in justice he ought do. I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

JOHN HAMMOND."

No 125. THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1709-10.

Quem mala stultitia, et quæcunque inscitia veri
Cæcum agit, insanum Chrysippi porticus, et grex
Autumat; hæc populos, hæc magnos formula reges,
Excepto sapiente, tenet. ———

HOR. 2. Sat. iii. 43.

Whom vicious passions, or whom falsehood, blind,
Are by the Stoics held of the mad kind.
All but the wise are by this process bound,
The subject nations, and the monarch crown'd.

FRANCIS.

From my own Apartment, January 25.

HERE is a sect of ancient philosophers, who, I ink, have left more volumes behind them, and ose better written, than any other of the frater- ties in philosophy. It was a maxim of this sect, at all those who do not live up to the principles of ason and virtue are madmen. Every one who go- rns himself by these rules, is allowed the title of

wise, and reputed to be in his senses: and
one, in proportion as he deviates from them, is
nounced frantic and distracted. Cicero having
sen this maxim for his theme, takes
argue from it very agreeably with Clodius,
placable adversary, who had procured
ment. "A city," says he, "is an assembly
guished into bodies of men, who are in p
of their respective rights and privileges, c
proper subordinations, and in all its parts obe
to the rules of law and equity." He then repre
the government from whence he was banished,
time when the consul, senate, and laws had
their authority, as a common-wealth of lun
For this reason he regards his expulsion from R
as a man would being turned out of Bedlam,
inhabitants of it should drive him out of their
as a person unfit for their community. W
therefore to look upon every man's brain
touched, however he may appear in the ge
conduct of his life, if he has an unjustifiable
larity in any part of his conversation or behav
or if he swerves from right reason, however
mon his kind of madness may be, we shall no
cuse him for its being epidemical; it being ou
sent design to clap up all such as have the n
madness upon them, who are now permitted
about the streets for no other reason, but be
they do no mischief in their fits. Abundan
imaginary great men are put in straw to bring
to a right sense of themselves. And is it not
gether as reasonable, that an insignificant man,
has an immoderate opinion of his merits, a
quite different notion of his own abilities from
the rest of the world entertain, should have the
care taken of him, as a beggar who fancies hi

a duke or a prince? Or why should a man, who starves in the midst of plenty, be trusted with himself, more than he who fancies he is an emperor in the midst of poverty? I have several women of quality in my thoughts, who set so exorbitant a value upon themselves, that I have often most heartily pitied them, and wished them for their recovery under the same discipline with the *pewterer's wife*. I find by several hints in ancient authors, that when the Romans were in the height of power and luxury, they assigned out of their vast dominions an island called Anticyra, as an habitation for madmen. This was the Bedlam of the Roman empire, whither all persons who had lost their wits used to resort from all parts of the world in quest of them. Several of the Roman emperors were advised to repair to this island; but most of them, instead of listening to such sober counsels, gave way to their distraction, until the people knocked them on the head as despairing of their cure. In short, it was as usual for men of distempered brains to take a voyage to Anticyra in those days, as it is in ours for persons who have a disorder in their lungs to go to Montpelier.

The prodigious crops of hellebore with which this whole island abounded, did not only furnish them with incomparable tea, snuff, and Hungary water; but impregnated the air of the country with such sober and salutiferous steams, as very much comforted the heads, and refreshed the senses of all that breathed in it. A discarded statesman, that, at his first landing appeared stark staring mad, would become calm in a week's time; and, upon his return home, live easy and satisfied in his retirement. A moping lover would grow a pleasant fellow by that time he had *rid* thrice about the island; and a

hare-brained rake, after a short stay in the country, go home again a composed, grave, worthy gentleman.

I have premised these particulars before I enter on the main design of this paper, because I would not be thought altogether *notional* in what I have to say, and pass only for a projector in morality. I could quote Horace and Seneca, and some other ancient writers of good repute, upon the same occasion; and make out by their testimony, that our streets are filled with distracted persons; that our shops and taverns, private and public houses, swarm with them; and that it is very hard to make up a tolerable assembly without a majority of them. But what I have already said is, I hope, sufficient to justify the ensuing project, which I shall therefore give some account of without any further preface.

1. It is humbly proposed, that a proper receptacle, or habitation, be forthwith erected for all such persons as, upon due trial and examination, shall appear to be out of their wits.

2. That, to serve the present exigency, the college in Moorfields be very much extended at both ends; and that it be converted into a square, by adding three other sides to it.

3. That nobody be admitted into these three additional sides, but such whose frenzy can lay no claim to an apartment in that row of building which is already erected.

4. That the architect, physician, apothecary, surgeon, keepers, nurses, and porters, be all and each of them cracked; provided that their frenzy does not lie in the profession or employment to which they shall severally and respectively be assigned.

N. B. It is thought fit to give the foregoing notice, that none may present himself here for any post of honour or profit, who is not duly qualified.

5. That over all the gates of the additional buildings, there be figures placed in the same manner as over the entrance of the edifice already erected; provided they represent such distractions only as are proper for those additional buildings; as of an envious man gnawing his own flesh; a gamester pulling himself by the ears, and knocking his head against a marble pillar; a covetous man warming himself over a heap of gold; a coward flying from his own shadow, and the like.

Having laid down this general scheme of my design, I do hereby invite all persons who are willing to encourage so public-spirited a project, to bring in their contributions, as soon as possible; and to apprehend forthwith any politician whom they shall catch raving in a coffee-house, or any free-thinker whom they shall find publishing his deliriums, or any other person who shall give the like manifest signs of a crazed imagination: and I do at the same time give this public notice to all the madmen about this great city, that they may return to their senses with all imaginable expedition, lest, if they should come into my hands, I should put them into a regimen which they would not like: for if I find any one of them persist in his frantic behaviour, I will make him in a month's time as famous as ever Oliver's porter was.

N°126. SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 1709.

Anguillam cauda tenes. T. D'URFEY.
You have got an eel by the tail.

From my own Apartment, January 27.

THERE is no sort of company so agreeable as t
women who have good sense without a
and can converse with men without any pr
sign of imposing chains and fetters. iv.
whom I visited this evening, is one of t
is an invincible prejudice in favour of all she
from her being a beautiful woman; bec
does not consider herself as such when she
you. This amiable temper gives a certain
to all her discourse, and made it very ag
me until we were interrupted by Lydia, a c
who has all the charms that can adorn a w
Her attractions would indeed be irresistible, t
she thinks them so, and is always employi
in stratagems and conquests. When I tu
eye upon her as she sat down, I saw she was a
son of that character, which, for the furth
formation of my country correspondents, I hav
wanted an opportunity of explaining. Ly
finished coquette, which is a sect among wo
all others the most mischievous, and mal
greatest havoc and disorder in society. I went
the discourse I was in with Belvidera, with
ing that I had observed any thing extrao
Lydia: upon which, I immediately saw
me over as some very ill-bred fellow; and,

a scornful glance on my dress, give a shrug at Belvidera. But, as much as she despised me, she wanted my admiration, and made twenty offers to bring my eyes her way: but I reduced her to a restlessness in her seat, and impertinent playing of her fan, and many other motions and gestures, before I took the least notice of her. At last I looked at her with a kind of surprise, as if she had before been unobserved by reason of an ill light where she sat. It is not to be expressed what a sudden joy I saw arise in her countenance, even at the approbation of such a very old fellow: but she did not long enjoy her triumph without a rival; for there immediately entered Castabella, a lady of a quite contrary character, that is to say, as eminent a prude as Lydia is a coquette. Belvidera gave me a glance, which methought intimated, that they were both curiosities in their kind, and worth remarking. As soon as we were again seated, I stole looks at each lady, as if I was comparing their perfections. Belvidera observed it, and began to lead me into a discourse of them both to their faces, which is to be done easily enough; for one woman is generally so intent upon the faults of another, that she has not reflexion enough to observe when her own are represented. "I have taken notice, Mr. Bickerstaff," said Belvidera, "that you have, in some parts of your writings, drawn characters of our sex, in which you have not, to my apprehension, been clear enough and distinct; particularly in those of a Prude and a Coquette." Upon the mention of this, Lydia was roused with the expectation of seeing Castabella's picture, and Castabella, with the hopes of that of Lydia. "Madam," said I to Belvidera, "when we consider nature, we shall often find very contrary effects flow from the same cause. The Prude and Coquette, as different as they appear in their be-

haviour, are in reality the same ki of v
The motive of action in both is the t
pleasing men. They are sisters of the
and constitution; only one chooses a gra
other a light dress. The Prude appears
tuous, the Coquette more vicious, than she really
The distant behaviour of the Prude tends
same purpose as the advances of the Coqu
you have as little reason to fall into despair
severity of the one, as to conceive hopes
familiarity of the other. What leads y
clear sense of their character is, that you
serve each of them has the distinction of
her thoughts, words, and actions. You
mention any assembly you were lately in,
asks you with a rigid, the other with a spr
'Pray, what men were there?' As for
must be confessed, that there are sev
who, like hypocrites, by long practice or a
part, become sincere; or at least delude t
into a belief that they are so."

For the benefit of the society of ladies, I
propose one rule to them as a test of their
I find in a very celebrated modern author, tha
great foundress of Pietists, Madam de
who was no less famous for the sanctity of
than for the singularity of some of her o
used to boast, that she had not only the sp
continency in herself, but that she had also
power of communicating it to all who beheld h
This the scoffers of those days called, "The gift
infrigidation," and took occasion from it to rally
face, rather than admire her virtue. I would t
fore advise the Prude, who has a mind to know
integrity of her own heart, to lay her hand serio
upon it, and to examine herself, whether she
sincerely rejoice in such a gift of conveying c

hts to all her male beholders. If she has any ion to the power of inspiring so great a virtue, ver notion she may have of her perfection, she ves her own heart, and is still in the state of y. Some perhaps will look upon the boast 1 de Bourignon, as the utmost ostentation Pruae.

you would see the humour of a Coquette pushed e last excess, you may find an instance of it e following story; which I will set down at h, because it pleased me when I read it, gh I cannot recollect in what author.

A young coquette widow in France having followed by a Gascon of quality, who had ed among his companions of some favours h he had never received; to be revenged of sent for him one evening, and told him, 'it n his power to do her a very particular service.' Gascon, with much profession of his readiness ey her commands, begged to hear in what man- she designed to employ him. 'You know,' the widow, 'my friend Belinda; and must have heard of the jealousy of that impotent h her husband. Now it is absolutely neces- for the carrying on a certain affair, that his and I should be together a whole night. What ve to ask of you is, to dress yourself in her t-cloaths, and lie by him a whole night in her , that he may not miss her while she is with The Gascon, though of a very lively and un- king complexion, began to startle at the pro- l. 'Nay,' says the widow, 'if you have not courage to go through what I ask of you, I employ somebody else that will.' 'Madam,' the Gascon, 'I will kill him for you if you e; but for lying with him!——How is it pos- to do it without being discovered?' 'If you

do not discover yourself,' says the widow, 'y
lie safe enough, for he is past all curiosity.
comes in at night while she is asleep, and goe
in a morning before she awakes; and is in pai
nothing, so he knows she is there.' 'Madam,'
plied the Gascon, 'how can you reward me
passing a night with this old fellow?' The w
answered with a laugh, 'Perhaps by admitting
to pass a night with one you think more agreea
He took the hint; put on his night-cloaths; and
not been a-bed above an hour before he
knocking at the door, and the treading of o
approached the other side of the bed, and wh
did not question was the good man of the ho
I do not know, whether the story would be b
by telling you in this place, or at the end of it,
the person who went to bed to him was our y
coquette widow. The Gascon was in a ter
fright every time she moved in the bed, or tu
towards him; and did not fail to shrink fr
until he had conveyed himself to the very
the bed. I will not dwell upon the perplexi
was in the whole night, which was augn
when he observed that it was now broad y,
that the husband did not yet offer to get up an
about his business. All that the Gascon had fi
was to keep his face turned from him, and to
himself asleep, when, to his utter confusion,
widow at last puts out her arm, and pulls the b
her bed's head. In came her friend and tw
three companions to whom the Gascon had bo
of her favours. The widow jumped into a wrap
gown, and joined with the rest in laughing a
man of intrigue."

№ 127. TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1709-10.

Nimirum insanus paucis videatur, eò quod
Maxima pars hominum morbo jactatur eodem.
HOR. 2. Sat. iii. 120.

By few, forsooth, a madman he is thought,
For half mankind the same disease have caught.
FRANCIS.

From my own Apartment, January 30.

THERE is no affection of the mind so much blended in human nature, and wrought into our very constitution, as Pride. It appears under a multitude of disguises, and breaks out in ten thousand different symptoms. Every one feels it in himself, and yet wonders to see it in his neighbour. I must confess, I met with an instance of it the other day, where I should very little have expected it. Who would believe the proud person I am going to speak of is a *cobler upon Ludgate-hill?* This artist being naturally a lover of respect, and considering that his circumstances are such that no man living will give it him, has contrived the figure of a beau in wood; who stands before him in a bending posture, with his hat under his left arm, and his right-hand extended in such a manner as to hold a thread, a piece of wax, or an awl, according to the particular service in which his master thinks fit to employ him. When I saw him, he held a candle in this obsequious posture. I was very well pleased with the *cobler's* invention, that had so ingeniously contrived an inferior, and stood a little while contemplating

this inverted idolatry, wherein the image did homage to the man. When we meet with such a fantastic vanity in one of this order, it is no wonder if we may trace it through all degrees above it, and particularly through all the steps of greatness. We easily see the absurdity of Pride, when it enters into the heart of a *cobler*; though in reality it is altogether as ridiculous and unreasonable, wherever it takes possession of an human creature. There is no temptation to it, from the reflexion upon our being in general, or upon any comparative perfection, whereby one man may excel another. The greater a man's knowledge is, the greater motive he may seem to have for Pride; but in the same proportion as the one rises, the other sinks, it being the chief office of wisdom to discover to us our weaknesses and imperfections.

As folly is the foundation of Pride, the natural superstructure of it is madness. If there was an occasion for the experiment, I would not question to make a proud man a lunatic in three weeks time; provided I had it in my power to ripen his frenzy with proper applications. It is an admirable reflexion in Terence, where it is said of a parasite, *Hic homines ex stultis facit insanos.* "This fellow," says he, "has an art of converting fools into madmen." When I was in France, the region of complaisance and vanity, I have often observed, that a great man who has entered a levee of flatterers humble and temperate, has grown so insensibly heated by the court which was paid him on all sides, that he has been quite distracted before he could get into his coach.

If we consult the collegiates of Moorfields, we shall find most of them are beholden to their Pride for their introduction into that magnificent palace. I had, some years ago, the curiosity to inquire into

the particular circumstances of these whimsical freeholders; and learned from their own mouths the condition and character of each of them. Indeed I found, that all I spoke to were persons of quality. There were at that time five duchesses, three earls, two heathen gods, an emperor, and a prophet. There were also a great number of such as were locked up from their estates, and others who concealed their titles. A leatherseller of Taunton whispered me in the ear, that he was "the duke of Monmouth:" but begged me not to betray him. At a little distance from him sat a taylor's wife, who asked me, as I went, if I had seen the sword-bearer? upon which I presumed to ask her, who she was? and was answered, "My Lady Mayoress."

I was very sensibly touched with compassion towards these miserable people; and, indeed, extremely mortified to see human nature capable of being thus disfigured. However, I reaped this benefit from it, that I was resolved to guard myself against a passion which makes such havoc in the brain, and produces so much disorder in the imagination. For this reason I have endeavoured to keep down the secret swellings of resentment, and stifle the very first suggestions of self-esteem; to establish my mind in tranquillity, and over-value nothing in my own or in another's possession.

For the benefit of such whose heads are a little turned, though not to so great a degree as to qualify them for the place of which I have been now speaking, I shall assign one of the sides of the college which I am erecting, for the cure of this dangerous distemper.

The most remarkable of the persons, whose disturbance arises from Pride, and whom I shall use all possible diligence to cure, are such as are hidden

in the appearance of quite contrary habits and positions. Among such, I shall, in the first place, take care of one who is under the most ridiculous species of Pride that I have observed in my experience.

This patient is a person for whom I have a great respect, as being an old courtier, and a friend of mine in my youth. The man has but a bare subsistence, just enough to pay his reckoning with us at the *Trumpet:* but by having spent the beginning of his life in the hearing of great men, and persons of power, he is always promising to do good offices, to introduce every man he converses with into the world; will desire one of ten times his substance to let him see him sometimes, and hints to him, that he does not forget him. He answers to matters of no consequence with great circumspection; but, however, maintains a general civility in his words and actions, and an insolent benevolence to all whom he has to do with. This he practises with a grave tone and air; and though I am his senior by twelve years, and richer by forty pounds *per annum*, he had yesterday the impudence to commend me to my face, and tell me, "she should be always ready to encourage me." In a word, he is a very insignificant fellow, but exceeding gracious. The best return I can make him for his favours is, to carry him myself to Bedlam, and see him well taken care of.

The next person I shall provide for is of a quite contrary character; that has in him all the stiffness and insolence of quality, without a grain of sense or good-nature, to make it either respected or beloved. His Pride has infected every muscle of his face; and yet, after all his endeavours to show mankind that he contemns them, he is only neglected

by all that see him, as not of consequence enough to be hated.

For the cure of this particular sort of madness, it will be necessary to break through all forms with him, and familiarise his carriage by the use of a good cudgel. It may likewise be of great benefit to make him jump over a stick half a dozen times every morning.

A third, whom I have in my eye, is a young fellow, whose lunacy is such, that he boasts of nothing but what he ought to be ashamed of. He is vain of being rotten, and talks publicly of having committed crimes which he ought to be hanged for by the laws of his country.

There are several others whose brains are hurt with Pride, and whom I may hereafter attempt to recover; but shall conclude my present list with an old woman, who is just dropping into her grave, that talks of nothing but her birth. Though she has not a tooth in her head, she expects to be valued for the blood in her veins; which she fancies is much better than that which glows in the cheeks of Belinda, and sets half the town on fire.

№ 128. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1709-10.

——*Veniunt à dote sagittæ.* JUV. Sat. vi. 138.
——The Dowery shot the darts.

Now artful Cupid takes his stand
Upon a widow's jointure-land,
For he in all his am'rous battles
No 'dvantage finds like goods and chattels.

HUDIBRAS, Part I. Canto III. l. 314.

From my own Apartment, February 1.

THIS morning I received a letter from a hunter, which, being better in its kind t of that character usually write, I have tho communicate to the public.

"To ISAAC BICKERSTAFF, Esq.

"SIR,

"I take the boldness to recommend to your the inclosed letter, not knowing how to c nicate it, but by your means, to the country-maid you mention with so much your discourse concerning the lottery.

"I should be ashamed to give you this without offering at some small requital: therefore direct a *new pair of globes, and a scope* of the best maker, to be left for you at Morphew's, as a testimony of the great respect which I am

Your most humble servant, &c."

"To Mopsa, in Sheer-lane.

"Fairest Unknown, *Jan.* 27, 1709-10.

"It being discovered by the stars, that about three months hence you will run the hazard of being persecuted by many worthless pretenders to your person, unless timely pevented; I now offer my service for your security against the persecution that threatens you. This is therefore to let you know, that I have conceived a most extraordinary passion for you; and that for several days I have been perpetually haunted with the vision of a person I have never yet seen. To satisfy you that I am in my senses, and that I do not mistake you for any one of higher rank, I assure you, that in your daily employment you appear to my imagination more agreeable in a short scanty petticoat, than the finest woman of quality in her spreading fardingal; and that the dexterous twirl of your mop has more native charms, than the studied airs of a lady's fan. In a word, I am captivated with your menial qualifications: the domestic virtues adorn you like attendant Cupids; cleanliness and healthful industry wait on all your motions; and dust and cobwebs fly your approach.

"Now, to give you an honest account of myself, and that you may see my designs are honourable, I am an esquire of an ancient family, born to about fifteen hundred pounds a year; half of which I have spent in discovering myself to be a fool, and with the rest I am resolved to retire with some plain honest partner, and study to be wiser. I had my education in a laced coat, and a French dancing-school; and, by my travel into foreign parts, have just as much breeding to spare, as you may think you want, which I intend to exchange as fast as I can

for old English honesty and good sense. I will
impose on you by a false recommendation of
person, which, to show you my sincerity, one
of the handsomest, being of a figure a what
short; but what I want in length, I make out in
breadth. But, in amends for that and all other de-
fects, if you can like me when you see me, I shall
continue to you, whether I find you fair, black, or
brown,

The most constant of Lovers."

This letter seems to be written by a wag,
that reason I am not much concerned for
ception Mopsa shall think fit to give it; but
lowing certainly proceeds from a poor he
languishes under the most deplorable
that possibly can befal a woman. A
treacherously dealt with in love, may have rec
to many consolations. He may gracefully
through all opposition to his mistress, or e
with his rival; urge his own constancy, or
vate the falsehood by which it is repaid.
woman that is ill-treated, has no refuge in
but in silence and secrecy. The world is so
that a female heart which has been once touc
thought for ever blemished. The very grief
case is looked upon as a reproach, and a compa
almost a breach of chastity. For these reasons
see treachery and falsehood are become, as it
male vices, and are seldom found, never
ledged, in the other sex. This may serve to
duce Statira's letter; which, without any
art, has something so pathetical and mo
it, that I verily believe it to be true, and
fore heartily pity the injured creature that

" To Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire.

" Sir,

" You seem in many of your writings to be a man of a very compassionate temper, and well acquainted with the passion of love. This encourages me to apply myself to you in my present distress, which I believe you will look upon to be very great, and treat with tenderness, notwithstanding it wholly arises from love, and that it is a woman that makes this confession. I am now in the twenty-third year of my age, and have for a great while entertained the addresses of a man who, I thought, loved me more than life. I am sure I did him; and must own to you, not without some confusion, that I have thought on nothing else for these two long years, but the happy life we should lead together, and the means I should use to make myself still dearer to him. My fortune was indeed much beyond his; and as I was always in the company of my relations, he was forced to discover his inclinations, and declare himself to me by stories of other persons, kind looks, and many ways, which he knew too well that I understood. Oh! Mr. Bickerstaff, it is impossible to tell you, how industrious I have been to make him appear lovely in my thoughts. I made it a point of conscience to think well of him, and of no man else: but he has since had an estate fallen to him, and makes love to another of a greater fortune than mine. I could not believe the report of this at first; but about a fortnight ago, I was convinced of the truth of it by his own behaviour. He came to make our family a formal visit, when, as there were several in company, and many things talked of, the discourse fell upon some unhappy woman, who was in my own circumstances. It was said by one in the room,

that they could not believe the story could be true, because they did not believe any man could be so false. Upon which, I stole a look upon him with an anguish not to be expressed. He saw my eyes full of tears, yet had the cruelty to say, that he could see no falsehood in alterations of this nature, where there had been no contracts or vows interchanged. Pray, do not make a jest of misery, but tell me seriously your opinion of his behaviour; and if you can have any pity for my condition, publish this in your next paper; that being the only way I have of complaining of his unkindness, and showing him the injustice he has done me.

I am your humble servant,

The unfortunate STATIRA."

The name my correspondent gives herself, puts me in mind of my old reading in romances, and brings into my thoughts a speech of the renowned Don Bellianis, who, upon a complaint made to him of a discourteous knight, that had left his injured paramour in the same manner, dries up her tears with a promise of relief. "Disconsolate damsel," quoth he, "a foul disgrace it were to all right-worthy professors of chivalry, if such a blot to knightood should pass unchastised. Give me to know the abode of this recreant lover, and I will give him as a feast to the fowls of the air, or drag him bound before you at my horse's tail!"

I am not ashamed to own myself a champion of distressed damsels, and would venture as far to relieve them as Don Bellianis; for which reason, I do invite this lady to let me know the name of the traitor who has deceived her; and do promise, not only her, but all the fair ones of Great-Britain, who lie under the same calamity, to employ my right-hand for their redress, and serve them to my last drop of ink.

9. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1709-10.

Ingenio manus est et cervix cæsa.————
JUV. Sat. x. 120.

His wit's rewarded with the fatal loss
Of hand and head———— R. WYNNE.

From my own Apartment, February 3.

N my paper for to-morrow was prepared for ·ess, there came in this morning a mail from nd, which brought me several advices from ;n parts, and took my thoughts off domestic ;. Among others, I have a letter from a burgher msterdam, who makes me his compliments, ells me has sent me several draughts of hu- ›us and satirical pictures by the best hands of Dutch nation. They are a trading people, and ir very minds mechanics. They express their ı manufacture, as we do in manuscript. He me, that a very witty hand has lately repre- ı the present posture of public affairs in a land- , or rather a sea-piece, wherein the potentates e alliance are figured as their interests cor- ıd with, or affect each other, under the appear- of commanders of ships. These vessels carry lours of the respective nations concerned in the ıt war. The whole design seems to tend to ›int, which is, that several squadrons of Bri- ıd Dutch ships are battering a French man of in order to make her deliver up a long-boat

with Spanish colours. My correspondent informs me, that a man must understand the compass perfectly well, to be able to comprehend the beauty and invention of this piece; which is so skilfully drawn, that the particular views of every prince in Europe are seen according as the ships lie to the main figure in the picture, and as their figure may help or retard their sailing. It seems this curiosity is now on board a ship bound for England, and, with other rarities, made a present to me. As soon as it arrives, I design to expose it to public view at my secretary Mr. Lillie's, who shall have an explication of all the terms of art; and I doubt not but it will give as good content as the moving picture in Fleet-street.

But, above all the honours I have received from the learned world abroad, I am most delighted with the following epistle from Rome.

"Pasquin of Rome to Isaac Bickerstaff, of Great-Britain, Greeting.

"Sir,

"Your reputation has passed the Alps, and would have come to my ears by this time, if I had any. In short, Sir, you are looked upon here as a northern droll, and the greatest virtuoso among the Tramontanes. Some indeed say, that Mr. Bickerstaff and Pasquin are only names invented to father compositions which the natural parent does not care for owning. But, however that is, all agree, that there are several persons, who, if they durst attack you, would endeavour to leave you no more limbs than I have. I need not tell you that my adversaries have joined in a confederacy with Time to demolish me; and that, if I were not a very great wit, I should make the worst figure in Europe, being abridged of my legs, arms, nose, and ears. If you think fit to accept of the correspondence of so facetious a cripple, I shall

from time to time send you an account of what happens at Rome. You have only heard of it from Latin and Greek authors; nay, perhaps, have read no accounts from hence, but of a triumph, ovation, or *apotheosis*, and will, doubtless, be surprised to see the description of a procession, jubilee, or canonisation. I shall, however, send you what the place affords, in return to what I shall receive from you. If you will acquaint me with your next promotion of general officers, I will send you an account of our next advancement of saints. If you will let me know who is reckoned the bravest warrior in Great-Britain, I will tell you who is the best fidler in Rome. If you will favour me with an inventory of the riches that were brought into your nation by admiral Wager, I will not fail giving you an account of a pot of medals that has been lately dug up here, and are now under the examination of our ministers of state.

"There is one thing, in which I desire you would be very particular. What I mean is an exact list of all the religions in Great-Britain, as likewise the habits, which are said here to be the great points of conscience in England; whether they are made of serge or broad-cloth, of silk or linen. I should be glad to see a model of the most conscientious dress among you, and desire you will send me a hat of each religion; as likewise, if it be not too much trouble, a cravat. It would also be very acceptable here to receive an account of those two religious orders, which are lately sprung up amongst you, the Whigs and the Tories, with the points of doctrine, severities in discipline, penances, mortifications, and good work, by which they differ one from another. It would be no less kind, if you would explain to us a word, which they do not understand even at our English monastery, Toasts, and let us know whether the ladies so called are nuns or lay-sisters. In return,

I will send you the secret history of several cardinals, which I have by me in manuscript, with the gallantries, amours, politics, and intrigues, by which they made their way to the holy purple.

"But, when I propose a correspondence, I must not tell you what I intend to advise you of hereafter, and neglect to give you what I have at present. The pope has been sick for this fortnight of a violent tooth-ache, which has very much raised the French faction, and put the Conclave into a great ferment. Every one of the pretenders to the succession is grown twenty years older than he was a fortnight ago. Each candidate tries who shall cough and stoop most; for these are at present the great gifts, that recommend to the apostolical seat; which he stands the fairest for, who is likely to resign it the soonest. I have known the time, when it used to rain *Louis d'ors* on such occasions; but, whatever is the matter, there are very few of them to be seen, at present, at Rome; insomuch, that it is thought a man might purchase infallibility at a very reasonable rate. It is nevertheless hoped, that his holiness may recover, and bury these his imaginary successors.

"There has lately been found an human tooth in a catacomb, which has engaged a couple of convents in a law-suit; each of them pretending, that it belonged to the jaw-bone of a saint, who was of their order. The college have sat upon it thrice; and I find there is a disposition among them to take it out of the possession of both the contending parties, by reason of a speech which was made by one of the cardinals, who, by reason of its being found out of the company of any other bones, asserted, that it might be one of the teeth, which was coughed out by Elia, an old woman whose loss is recorded in Martial.

"I have nothing remarkable to communicate to you of state affairs, excepting only, that the Pope

ately received an horse from the German am-
or, as an acknowledgement for the kingdom of
which is a fief of the church. His holiness
ea this horse from the Germans ever since the
: of Anjou has been possessed of Spain; but as
lately took care to accompany it with a body of
usand more, they have at last overcome his
ss's modesty, and prevailed upon him to accept
resent. I am, Sir,

" Your most obedient, humble servant,

" PASQUIN.

" P. S. Marforio is very much yours."

30. TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1709-10.

———Tamen me
Cum magnis vixisse invita fatebitur usque
Invidia——— HOR. 2. Sat. i. 75.

Spite of herself ev'n Envy must confess,
That I the friendship of the great possess.
FRANCIS.

Sheer-lane, February 6.

ID some of the most polite Latin authors, who
e at a time when Rome was in its glory, speak
a certain noble vanity of the brightness and
ıdor of the age in which they lived. Pliny often
ɔliments his emperor Trajan upon this head;
when he would animate him to any thing great,
issuade him from any thing that was improper,

he insinuates, that it is befitting or unbecomi
claritas et nitor seculi, that period of t
was made illustrious by his reign. When
our eyes back on the history of mankind,
them through their several successions to tm
original, we sometimes see them break
great and memorable actions, and towe
the utmost heights of virtue and knowledge,
perhaps, if we carry our observations to
tance, we see them sunk into sloth and
and altogether lost in darkness and obscurity.
times the whole species is asleep for two or
generations, and then again awakens into
flourishes in heroes, philosophers, and po
do honour to human nature, and leave such
of glory behind them, as distinguish the y
which they acted their part, from the o
course of time.

Methinks a man cannot, without a et
faction, consider the glory of the pr
will shine as bright as any other in the
mankind. It is still big with great events, and
already produced changes and revolutions, v
will be as much admired by posterity, as any
have happened in "the days of our fathers, or
old times before them." We have seen kii
divided and united, monarchs erected and d
nations transferred from one sovereign to another;
conquerors raised to such a greatness, as has given
a terror to Europe, and thrown down by such a fall,
as has moved their pity.

But it is still a more pleasing view to an English-
man, to see his own country give the chief influence
to so illustrious an age, and stand in the strongest
point of light amidst the diffused glory that sur-
rounds it.

If we begin with learned men, we may observe, to the honour of our country, that those who make the greatest figure in most arts and sciences, are universally allowed to be of the British nation; and what is more remarkable, that men of the greatest learning, among the men of the greatest quality.

A nation may indeed abound with persons of such uncommon parts and worth, as may make them rather a misfortune than a blessing to the public. Those, who singly might have been of infinite advantage to the age they live in, may, by rising up together in the same crisis of time, and by interfering in their pursuits of honour, rather interrupt, than promote the service of their country. Of this we have a famous instance in the republic of Rome, when Cæsar, Pompey, Cato, Cicero, and Brutus, endeavoured to recommend themselves at the same time to the admiration of their contemporaries. Mankind was not able to provide for so many extraordinary persons at once, or find out posts suitable to their ambition and abilities. For this reason they were all as miserable in their deaths, as they were famous in their lives, and occasioned not only the ruin of each other, but also that of the commonwealth.

It is therefore a particular happiness to a people, when the men of superior genius and character are so justly disposed in the high places of honour, that each of them moves in a sphere which is proper to him, and requires those particular qualities in which he excels.

If I see a general commanding the forces of his country, whose victories are not to be paralleled in story, and who is as famous for his negociations as his victories*; and at the same time see the manage-

* The duke of Marlborough, commander in chief of her Majesty's forces.

ment of a nation's treasury in the hands of o
has always distinguished himself by a g
tempt of his own private wealth, and an
gality of that which belongs to the public *; a
not but think a people under such an a
may promise themselves conquests abroad, and
at home. If I were to wish for a pro
preside over the public councils, it sh
be one as much admired for his univer
ledge of men and things, as for his eloq nce, co
rage, and integrity, in the exerting of n ext
dinary talents †.

Who is not pleased to see a person in t
est station in the law, who was the most
in his profession, and the most accomplish
tor at the bar ‡? Or at the head of the
commander, under whose conduct the con
received such a blow, as he has never
to recover §?

Were we to form to ourselves the idea of a
whom we should think proper to go a
kingdom, consisting chiefly of those w a
us in religion, and are influenced by ro p
tics; would it not be such a one, as had s
himself by an uniform and unshaken zeal
Protestant interest, and by his dexterity in
the skill and artifice of its enemies ||? In
we find a great man popular for his honesty

* Sidney lord Godolphin was then lord high-treasurer England.

† The great lord Somers was at this time lord president the council.

‡ Lord-chancellor Cowper is here alluded to.

§ Edward Russel, earl of Orford, first lord commissioner the Admiralty.

|| Thomas earl of Wharton had recently been hono 1 w the title of lord-lieutenant of Ireland; Addison was

nity, as well as famed for his learning and great kill in all the languages of Europe; or a person minent for those qualifications, which make men ne in public assemblies, or for that steadiness, stancy, and good sense, which carry a man to the esired point through all the opposition of tumult nd prejudice, we have the happiness to behold them all posts suitable to their characters.

ch a constellation of great persons, if I may so ak, while they shine out in their own distinct apacities, reflect a lustre upon each other, but in a nore particular manner on their sovereign, who has placed them in those proper situations, by which heir virtues become so beneficial to all her subjects. It is the anniversary of the birth-day of this glorious queen, which naturally led me into this field of contemplation, and, instead of joining in the public exultations that are made on such occasions, to entertain my thoughts with the more serious pleasure of ruminating upon the glories of her reign.

While I behold her surrounded with triumphs, and adorned with all the prosperity and success which heaven ever shed on a mortal, and still considering herself as such; though the person appears to me exceeding great, that has these just honours paid to her; yet I must confess, she appears much greater in that she receives them with such a glorious humility, and shows she has no further regard for them, than as they arise from these great events, which have made her subjects happy. For my own part, I must confess, when I see private virtues in so high a degree of perfection, I am not astonished at any extraordinary success that attends them, but look upon public triumphs as the natural consequences of religious retirements.

ADVERTISEMENT.

"Finding some persons have mistaken Pasquin, who was mentioned in my last, for one who has been pilloried at Rome, I must here advertise them, that it is only a maimed statue so called, on which the private scandal of that city is generally pasted. Marforio is a person of the same quality, who is usually made to answer whatever is published by the other; the wits of that place, like too many of our own country, taking pleasure in setting innocent people together by the ears. The mentioning of this person, who is a great wit, and a great cripple, put me in mind of Mr. Estcourt, who is under the same circumstances. He was formerly my apothecary, and being at present disabled by the gout and stone, I must recommend him to the public on Thursday next; that admirable play of Ben Jonson's, called The Silent Woman, being appointed to be acted for his benefit. It would be indecent for me to appear twice in a season at these ludicrous diversions; but as I always give *my man* and my maid one day in the year, I shall allow them this, and am promised by Mr. Estcourt, my ingenious apothecary, that they shall have a place kept for them in the first row of the middle gallery."

N°131. THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1709-10.

Scelus est jugulare Falernum,
Et dare Campano toxica sæva mero. MART. i. 19.

How great the crime, how flagrant the abuse!
T' adulterate generous wine with noxious juice.
R. WYNNE.

Sheer-lane, February 8.

THERE is in this city a certain fraternity of chemical operators, who work under ground in holes, caverns, and dark retirements, to conceal their mysteries from the eyes and observation of mankind. These subterraneous philosophers are daily employed in the transmutation of liquors, and, by the power of magical drugs and incantations, raising under the streets of London the choicest products of the hills and valleys of France. They can squeeze Bourdeaux out of the sloe, and draw Champagne from an apple. Virgil, in that remarkable prophecy,

Incultisque rubens pendebit sentibus uva.
VIRG. Ecl. iv. 29.

The ripening grape shall hang on every thorn,

seems to have hinted at this art, which can turn a plantation of northern hedges into a vineyard. These adepts are known among one another by the name of *wine-brewers;* and, I am afraid, do great injury, not only to her majesty's customs, but to the bodies of many of her good subjects.

Having received sundry complaints
invisible workmen, I ordered the pro
my court to ferret them out of their cave
and bring them before me, which was yes
executed accordingly.

The person, who appeared against them, was a merchant, who had by him a great magazine of wines, that he had laid in before the war: but these gentlemen, as he said, had so vitiated the nation's palate, that no man could believe his to be French, because it did not taste like what they sold for such. As a man never pleads better than where his own personal interest is concerned, he exhibited to the court, with great eloquence, "That this new corporation of druggists had inflamed the bills of mortality, and puzzled the college of physicians with diseases, for which they neither knew a name or cure. He accused some of giving all the customers colics and megrims; and mentioned one who had boasted he had a tun of claret by him, that in a fortnight's time should give the gout to a dozen of the healthfulest men in the city, provided that their constitutions were prepared for it by wealth and idleness. He then enlarged, with a great show of reason, upon the prejudice which these mixtures and compositions had done to the brains of the English nation; as is too visible, said he, from many late pamphlets, speeches, and sermons, as well as from the ordinary conversations of the youth of this age. He then quoted an ingenious person, who would undertake to know by a man's writings the wine he most delighted in; and on that occasion named a certain satirist, whom he had discovered to be the author of a lampoon, by a manifest taste of the sloe, which showed itself in it, by much roughness, and little spirit.

In the last place, he ascribed to the unnatural tumults and fermentations which these mixtures raise

in our blood, the divisions, heats, and animosities, that reign among us; and, in particular, asserted most of the modern enthusiasms and agitations to be nothing else but the effects of adulterated Port.

The counsel for the Brewers had a face so extremely inflamed, and illuminated with carbuncles, that I did not wonder to see him an advocate for these sophistications. His rhetoric was likewise such as I should have expected from the common draught, which I found he often drank to a great excess. Indeed, I was so surprised at his figure and parts, that I ordered him to give me a taste of his usual liquor; which I had no sooner drunk, but I found a pimple rising in my forehead; and felt such a sensible decay in my understanding, that I would not proceed in the trial until the fume of it was entirely dissipated.

This notable advocate had little to say in the defence of his clients, but that they were under a necessity of making claret, if they would keep open their doors; it being the nature of mankind to love every thing that is prohibited. He further pretended to reason, that it might be as profitable to the nation to make French wine as French hats; and concluded with the great advantage that this practice had already brought to part of the kingdom. Upon which he informed the court, that the lands in Herefordshire were raised two years purchase since the beginning of the war.

When I had sent out my summons to these people, I gave, at the same time, orders to each of them to bring the several ingredients he made use of in distinct phials, which they had done accordingly, and ranged them into two rows on each side of the court. The workmen were drawn up in ranks behind them. The merchant informed me, "That in one row of phials were the several colours they dealt

in, and in the other, the tastes." He then showed me, on the right-hand, one who went by the name of Tom Tintoret, who, as he told me, "was the greatest master in his colouring of any vintner in London." To give me a proof of his art, he took a glass of fair water; and, by the infusion of three drops out of one of his phials, converted it into a most beautiful pale Burgundy. Two more of the same kind heightened it into a perfect Languedoc: from thence it passed into a florid Hermitage: and after having gone through two or three other changes, by the addition of a single drop, ended in a very deep Pontac. This ingenious virtuoso, seeing me very much surprised at his art, told me, that he had not an opportunity of showing it in perfection, having only made use of water for the ground-work of his colouring: but that, if I were to see an operation upon liquors of stronger bodies, the art would appear to a much greater advantage. He added, that he doubted not but it would please my curiosity to see the cyder of one apple take only a vermilion, when another, with a less quantity of the same infusion, would rise into a dark purple, according to the different texture of parts in the liquor. He informed me also, that he could hit the different shades and degrees of red, as they appear in the pink and the rose, the clove and the carnation, as he had Rhenish or Moselle, Perry or White Port, to work in.

I was so satisfied with the ingenuity of this virtuoso, that, after having advised him to quit so dishonest a profession, I promised him, in consideration of his great genius, to recommend him as a partner to a friend of mine, who has heaped up great riches, and is a scarlet-dyer.

The artists on my other hand were ordered, in the second place, to make some experiments of their

skill before me: upon which the famous Harry Sippet stepped out, and asked me, "what I would be pleased to drink?" At the same time he filled out three or four white liquors in a glass, and told me, "That it should be what I pleased to call for;" adding very learnedly, "That the liquor before him was as the naked substance, or first matter of his compound, to which he and his friend, who stood over-against him, could give what accidents or form they pleased." Finding him so great a philosopher, I desired he would convey into it the qualities and essence of right Bourdeaux. "Coming, coming, Sir," said he, with the air of a drawer; and, after having cast his eye on the several tastes and flavours that stood before him, he took up a little cruet, that was filled with a kind of inky juice, and pouring some of it out into the glass of white wine, presented it to me; and told me, "This was the wine over which most of the business of the last Term had been dispatched." I must confess, I looked upon that sooty drug, which he held up in his cruet, as the quintessence of English Bourdeaux; and therefore desired him to give me a glass of it by itself, which he did with great unwillingness. My cat at that time sat by me upon the elbow of my chair; and as I did not care for making the experiment upon myself, I reached it to her to sip of it, which had like to have cost her her life; for, notwithstanding it flung her at first into freakish tricks, quite contrary to her usual gravity, in less than a quarter of an hour she fell into convulsions; and, had it not been a creature more tenacious of life than any other, would certainly have died under the operation.

I was so incensed by the tortures of my innocent domestic, and the unworthy dealings of these men, that I told them, if each of them had as many lives as the injured creature before them, they deserved

to forfeit them for the pernicious arts which they used for their profit. I therefore bid them look upon themselves as no better than as a kind of assassins and murderers within the law. However, since they had dealt so clearly with me, and laid before me their whole practice, I dismissed them for that time; with a particular request, that they would not poison any of my friends and acquaintance, and take to some honest livelihood without loss of time.

For my own part, I have resolved hereafter to be very careful in my liquors; and have agreed with a friend of mine in the army, upon their next to secure me two hogsheads of the best stomac , in the cellars of Versailles, for the good of my Lucubrations, and the comfort of my old age.

N° 132. SATURDAY, FEB. 11, 1709-10.

Habeo senectuti magnam gratiam, que mihi sermonis aviditatem auxit, potionis et cibi sustulit. TULL. de Sen.

I am much beholden to old age, which has increased my eagerness for conversation, in proportion as it has lessened my appetite of hunger and thirst.

Sheer-lane, February 10.

After having applied my mind with more than ordinary attention to my studies, it is my usual custom to relax and unbend it in the conversation of such, as are rather easy than shining companions. This I find particularly necessary for me before I

:o rest, in order to draw my slumbers upon degrees, and fall asleep insensibly. This is ·ticular use I make of a set of heavy honest with whom I have passed many hours with indolence, though not with great pleasure. conversation is a kind of preparative for sleep; s the mind down from its abstractions, leads the familiar traces of thought, and lulls it into ıte of tranquillity, which is the condition of a ıg man, when he is but half awake. After ıy reader will not be surprised to hear the ac- which I am about to give of a club of my ontemporaries, among whom I pass two or ıours every evening. This I look upon as my first nap before I go to bed. The truth , I should think myself unjust to posterity, as s to the society at the *Trumpet**, of which I nember, did not I in some part of my writings ı account of the persons among whom I have almost a sixth part of my time for these last ·ears. Our club consisted originally of fifteen; artly by the severity of the law in arbitrary and partly by the natural effects of old age, : at present reduced to a third part of that r: in which, however, we have this con- n, that the best company is said to consist persons. I must confess, besides the afore- ıned benefit which I meet with in the conversa- this select society, I am not the less pleased ıe company, in that I find myself the greatest ıong them, and am heard as their oracle in all of learning and difficulty.

Jeoffery Notch, who is the oldest of the club, en in possession of the right-hand chair time mind, and is the only man among us that has

* A public-house in Shire-lane.

the liberty of stirring the fire. This our fo
a gentleman of an ancient family, that
great estate some years before he had discre
run it out in hounds, horses, and cock-fight
which reason he looks upon himself as
worthy gentleman, who has had misfortu
world, and calls every thriving man a pitifu

Major Matchlock is the next senior, w
in the last civil wars, and has all the battles by
He does not think any action in Europe wo
ing of since the fight of Marston-Moor; a
night tells us of his having been knocked
horse at the rising of the London apprenti
which he is in great esteem among us.

Honest old Dick Reptile is the third of our
He is a good-natured indolent man, who spe
himself, but laughs at our jokes; and br
young nephew along with him, a youth of
years old, to show him good company, and g
a taste of the world. This young fellow
rally silent; but whenever he opens his m
laughs at any thing that passes, he is constan
by his uncle, after a jocular manner, "Ay, ay,
you young men think us fools; but we
know you are."

The greatest wit of our company, next to
is a Bencher of the neighbouring Inn,
youth frequented the ordinaries about Charing
and pretends to have been intimate with Jack
He has about ten distichs of Hudibras with
and never leaves the club until he has applied
all. If any modern wit be mentioned, or any
frolic spoken of, he shakes his head at the
of the present age, and tells us a story of Jack

For my own part, I am esteemed among th
because they see I am something respected by o
though at the same time I understand by t

haviour, that I am considered by them as a man of a great deal of learning, but no knowledge of the world; insomuch, that the Major sometimes, in the height of his military pride, calls me the Philosopher; and Sir Jeoffery, no longer ago than last night, upon a dispute what day of the month it was then in Holland, pulled his pipe out of his mouth, and cried, "What does the scholar say to it?"

Our club meets precisely at *six a clock in the evening;* but I did not come last night until half an hour after seven, by which means I escaped the battle of Naseby, which the Major usually begins at about three quarters after six: I found also, that my good friend the Bencher had already spent three of his distichs; and only waited an opportunity to hear a sermon spoken of, that he might introduce the couplet where "a stick" rhimes to ecclesiastic." At my entrance into the room, they were naming a red petticoat and a cloak, by which I found that the Bencher had been diverting them with a story of Jack Ogle.

I had no sooner taken my seat, but Sir Jeoffery, to show his good will towards me, gave me a pipe of his own tobacco, and stirred up the fire. I look upon it as a point of morality, to be obliged by those who endeavour to oblige me; and therefore in requital for his kindness, and to set the conversation a-going, I took the best occasion I could to put him upon telling us the story of old Gantlett, which he always does with very particular concern. He traced up his descent on both sides for several generations, describing his diet and manner of life, with his several battles, and particularly that in which he fell. This Gantlett was a game cock, upon whose head the knight, in his youth, had won five hundred pounds, and lost two thousand. This naturally set

the Major upon the account of Edge-hill fight, ended in a duel of Jack Ogle's.

Old Reptile was extremely attentive to all was said, though it was the same he had heard eve night for these twenty years, and upon all occ winked upon his nephew to mind what passed.

This may suffice to give the world a taste of innocent conversation, which we spun out until abo ten of the clock, when my maid came with a la tern to light me home. I could not but reflect wi myself, as I was going out, upon the talkative mour of old men, and the little figure which t part of life makes in one who cannot employ natural propensity in discourses which would him venerable. I must own, it makes me very lancholy in company, when I hear a young man b gin a story; and have often observed, that one o quarter of an hour long in a man of five-and-twen gathers circumstances every time he tells it, until grows into a long Canterbury tale of two hours that time he is threescore.

The only way of avoiding such a trifling and f volous old age is, to lay up in our way to it such s ries of knowledge and observation, as may make useful and agreeable in our declining years. T mind of man in a long life will become a magazi of wisdom or folly, and will consequently dischar itself in something impertinent or improving. I which reason, as there is nothing more ridicul than an old trifling story-teller, so there is nothi more venerable, than one who has turned his perience to the entertainment and advantage mankind.

In short, we, who are in the last stage of l and are apt to indulge ourselves in talk, ought consider, if what we speak be worth being hea and endeavour to make our discourse like that

stor, which Homer compares to the flowing of ey for its sweetness.

I am afraid I shall be thought guilty of this excess I am speaking of, when I cannot conclude without ving that Milton certainly thought of this pas- e in Homer, when, in his description of an elo- nt spirit, he says,

"His tongue dropp'd manna."

N° 133. TUESDAY, FEB. 14, 1709-10.

Dum tacent, clamant. TULL.

Their Silence pleads aloud.

Sheer-lane, February 13.

LENCE is sometimes more significant and sublime, han the most noble and most expressive eloquence, nd is on many occasions the indication of a great iind. Several authors have treated of Silence, as part of duty and discretion; but none of them iave considered it in this light. Homer compares he noise and clamour of the Trojans advancing to- vards the enemy, to the cackling of cranes, when hey invade an army of pigmies. On the contrary, ie makes his countrymen and favourites, the Greeks, nove forward in a regular and determined march, ind in the depth of Silence. I find in the accounts, vhich are given us of some of the more Eastern iations, where the inhabitants are disposed by their

constitutions and climates to higher of thought, and more elevated raptures th w re feel in the Northern regions of the wo n Silence is a religious exercise among them. when their public devotions are in the gre vour, and their hearts lifted up as high w can raise them, there are certain suspe sound and motion for a time, in which the m n left to itself, and supposed to swell with such conceptions, as are too big for utterance. I have myself been wonderfully delighted with a masterpiece of music, when, in the very tumult and ferment of their harmony, all the voices and instruments have stopped short on a sudden; and after a little pause recovered themselves again as it were, and renewed the concert in all its parts. This short interval of Silence has had more music in it, than any the same space of time before or after it. There are two instances of Silence in the two greatest poets that ever wrote, which have something in them as sublime, as any of the speeches in their whole works. The first is that of Ajax, in the eleventh book of the Odyssey. Ulysses, who had been the rival of this great man in his life, as well as the occasion of his death, upon meeting his shade in the region of departed heroes, makes his submission to him with an humility next to adoration, which the other passes over with dumb, sullen majesty, and such a Silence, as, to use the words of Longinus, had more greatness in it than any thing he could have spoken.

The next instance I shall mention is in Virgil, where the poet doubtless imitates this Silence of Ajax in that of Dido; though I do not know that any of his commentators have taken notice of it. Æneas, finding among the shades of despairing lovers, the ghost of her who had lately died for him,

with the wound still fresh upon her, addresses himself to her with expanded arms, floods of tears, and the most passionate professions of his own innocence, as to what had happened; all which Dido receives with the dignity and disdain of a resenting lover and an injured queen; and is so far from vouchsafing him an answer, that she does not give him a single look. The poet represents her as turning away her face from him while he spoke to her; and, after having kept her eyes some time upon the ground, as one that heard and contemned his protestations, flying from him into the grove of myrtle, and into the arms of another, whose fidelity had deserved her love*.

I have often thought our writers of tragedy have been very defective in this particular, and that they might have given great beauty to their works, by certain stops and pauses in the representation of such passions as it is not in the power of language to express. There is something like this in the last act of "Venice Preserved," where Pierre is brought to an infamous execution, and begs of his friend, as a reparation for past injuries, and the only favour he could do him, to rescue him from the ignominy of the wheel by stabbing him. As he is going to make his dreadful request, he is not able to communicate it; but withdraws his face from his friend's ear, and bursts into tears. The melancholy Silence that follows hereupon, and continues until he has recovered himself enough to reveal his mind to his friend, raises in the spectators a grief that is inexpressible, and an idea of such a complicated distress in the actor, as words cannot utter. It would look as ridiculous to many readers, to give rules and di-

* Sichæus.

rections for proper Silences, as for " Whisper:" but it is certain, that in the of most passions, particularly surprise, a astonishment, nay, rage itself, there is no more graceful than to see the play stand still a few moments, and the audience fixed in an able suspense, during the Silence of a actor.

But Silence never shows itself to so great an advantage, as when it is made the reply to calumny and defamation, provided that we give no just occasion for them. We might produce an example of it in the behaviour of one, in whom it appeared in all its majesty, and one, whose Silence, as well as his person, was altogether *divine*. When one considers this subject only in its sublimity, this great instance could not but occur to me; and since I only make use of it to show the highest example of it, I hope I do not offend in it. To forbear replying to an unjust reproach, and overlook it with a generous, or, if possible, with an entire neglect of it, is one of the most heroic acts of a great mind: and I must confess, when I reflect upon the behaviour of some of the greatest men in antiquity, I do not so much admire them, that they deserved the praise of the whole age they lived in, as because they contemned the envy and detraction of it.

All that is incumbent on a man of worth, who suffers under so ill a treatment, is to lie by for some time in silence and obscurity, until the prejudice of the times be over, and his reputation cleared. I have often read, with a great deal of pleasure, a legacy of the famous lord Bacon, one of the greatest geniuses that our own or any country has produced. After having bequeathed his soul, body, and estate, in the usual form, he adds, " My name and me-

mory I leave to foreign nations, and to my countrymen after some time be passed over."

At the same time that I recommend this philosophy to others, I must confess, I am so poor a proficient in it myself, that if in the course of my Lucubrations it happens, as it has done more than once, that my paper is duller than in conscience it ought to be, I think the time an age until I have an opportunity of putting out another, and growing famous again for two days.

I must not close my discourse upon Silence, without informing my reader, that I have by me an elaborate treatise on the *Aposiopesis*, called an *Et cætera;* it being a figure much used by some learned authors, and particularly by the great Littleton, who, as my lord chief justice Coke observes, had a most admirable talent at an *&c.*

ADVERTISEMENT.

To oblige the pretty fellows, and my fair readers, I have thought fit to insert the whole passage above mentioned relating to Dido, as it is translated by Mr. Dryden*.

Not far from thence, the mournful fields appear:
So call'd from lovers that inhabit there.
The souls, whom that unhappy flame invades,
In secret solitude, and myrtle shades,
Make endless moans; and, pining with desire,
Lament too late their unextinguish'd fire.
Here Procris, Eriphyle here, he found
Baring her breast, yet bleeding with the wound
Made by her son. He saw Pasiphäe there,
With Phædra's ghost, a foul incestuous pair:
There Laodamia with Evadne moves:
Unhappy both; but loyal in their loves.
Coeneus, a woman once, and once a man;
But ending in the sex she first began.

* Æneïd, book vi. 46.

Not far from these Phœnician Dido stood;
Fresh from her wound, her bosom bath'd in blood:
Whom when the Trojan hero hardly knew,
Obscure in shades, and with a doubtful view,
(Doubtful as he who runs thro' dusky night,
Or thinks he sees the moon's uncertain light,)
With tears he first approach'd the sullen shade,
And, as his love inspir'd him, thus he said:
Unhappy queen! then is the common breath
Of rumour true, in your reported death?
And I, alas! the cause! by Heav'n I vow,
And all the Powers that rule the realms below,
Unwilling I forsook your friendly state!
Commanded by the gods, and forc'd by fate;
Those gods, that fate, whose unresisted might
Have sent me to these regions void of light,
Through the vast empire of eternal night.
Nor dar'd I to presume, that, pressed with grief,
My flight should urge you to this dire relief.
Stay, stay your steps, and listen to my vows;
'Tis the last interview that fate allows!
In vain he thus attempts her mind to move,
With tears and prayers, and late repenting love.
Disdainfully she look'd; then turning round,
But fix'd her eyes unmov'd upon the ground:
And what he says, and swears, regards no more
Than the deaf rocks, when the loud billows roar;
But whirl'd away, to shun his hateful sight,
Hid in the forest, and the shades of night:
Then sought Sichæus through the shady grove,
Who answer'd all her cares, and equall'd all her love.

N° 134. THURSDAY, FEB. 16, 1709-10.

——————— *Quis talia fando*
Myrmidonum, Dolopumve, aut duri miles Ulyssei,
Temperet à lacrymis? VIRG. Æn. II. 8.

——————— Such woes
Not even the hardest of our foes could hear,
Nor stern Ulysses tell without a tear. DRYDEN.

Sheer-lane, February 15.

WAS awakened very early this morning by the stant crowing of a cock, which I thought had the iest pipe I ever heard. He seemed to me to strain s voice more than ordinary, as if he designed to ake himself heard to the remotest corner of this ne. Having entertained myself a little before I ent to bed with a discourse on the transmigration men into other animals, I could not but fancy at this was the soul of some drowsy bell-man who ied to sleep upon his post, for which he was con-emned to do penance in feathers, and distinguish e several watches of the night under the outside a cock. While I was thinking of the condition this poor bell-man in masquerade, I heard a great nocking at my door, and was soon after told by my aid, that my worthy friend the tall black gentle-an, who frequents the coffee-houses hereabouts, esired to speak with me. This ancient *Pythago-an,* who has as much honesty as any man living, it good nature to an excess, brought me the fol-wing petition; which I am apt to believe he nned himself, the petitioner not being able to ex-

press his mind on paper under his present form, however famous he might have been for writing verses when he was in his original shape.

" To Isaac Bickerstaff, Esquire, Censor of Great-Britain.

" The humble petition of Job Chanticleer, in behalf of himself, and many other poor sufferers in the same condition,

" Showeth, From my Coop in Clare-market, Feb. 13, 1709.

" That whereas your petitioner is truly descended of the ancient family of the Chanticleers, at Cock-hall, near Rumford, in Essex, it has been his misfortune to come into the mercenary hands of a certain ill-disposed person, commonly called an higler, who, under the close confinement of a pannier, has conveyed him and many others up to London; but hearing by chance of your worship's great humanity towards Robin-red-breasts and Tom-tits, he is emboldened to beseech you to take his deplorable condition into your tender consideration, who otherwise must suffer, with many thousands more as innocent as himself, that inhuman barbarity of a *Shrove-Tuesday* persecution*. We humbly hope, that our courage and vigilance may plead for us on this occasion.

" Your poor petitioner most earnestly implores your immediate protection from the insolence of the rabble, the batteries of cat-sticks, and a painful lingering death.

And your Petitioner, &c."

Upon delivery of this petition, the worthy gentleman, who presented it, told me the customs of

* The original date of this paper is " From Tuesday Feb. 14, to Thursday Feb. 16, 1709."

ny wise nations of the East, through which he ıad travelled; that nothing was more frequent than o see a dervise lay out a whole year's income in the 'edemption of larks or linnets, that had unhappily 'allen into the hands of bird-catchers; that it was ılso usual to run between a dog and a bull to keep hem from hurting one another, or to lose the use)f a limb in parting a couple of furious mastiffs. He then insisted upon the ingratitude and *disinge-nuity** of treating in this manner a necessary and lomestic animal, that has made the whole house :eep good hours, and called up the cook-maid for ive years together. "What would a Turk† say," ontinued he, "should he hear, that it is a common ntertainment in a nation, which pretends to be)ne of the most civilised of Europe, to tie an inno-:ent animal to a stake, and put him to an ignomi-ıious death, who has perhaps been the guardian ınd proveditor of a poor family, as long as he was ible to get *eggs* for his mistress?"

I thought what this gentleman said was very rea-onable; and have often wondered, that we do not ay aside a custom, which makes us appear bar-)arous to nations much more rude and unpolished han ourselves. Some French writers have repre-ented this diversion of the common people much to)ur disadvantage, and imputed it to natural fierce-ıess and cruelty of temper; as they do some other ntertainments peculiar to our nation: I mean those legant diversions of bull-baiting and prize-fighting, vith the like ingenious recreations of the bear-;arden. I wish I knew how to answer this reproach vhich is cast upon us, and excuse the death of so

* *Disingenuousness.*

† The word *Turk* is used here to signify *a savage*, or *a barbarian.*

many innocent cocks, bulls, dogs, and bears, to have been set together by the ears, or died untimely deaths, only to make us sport.

It will be said, that these are the entertainments of common people. It is true; but they are the entertainments of no other common people. Besides, I am afraid, there is a tincture of the same savage spirit in the diversions of those of higher rank, and more refined relish. Rapin observes, that the English theatre very much delights in bloodshed, which he likewise represents as an indication of our tempers. I must own, there is something very horrid in the public executions of an English tragedy. Stabbing and poisoning, which are performed behind the scenes in other nations, must be done openly among us, to gratify the audience.

When poor Sandford was upon the stage, I have seen him groaning upon a wheel, stuck with daggers, impaled alive, calling his executioners, with a dying voice, "cruel dogs and villains!" and all this to please his judicious spectators, who were wonderfully delighted with seeing a man in torment so well acted. The truth of it is, the politeness of our English stage, in regard to decorum, is very extraordinary. We act murders, to show our intrepidity; and adulteries, to show our gallantry: both of them are frequent in our most taking plays, with this difference only, that the former are done in the sight of the audience, and the latter wrought up to such an height upon the stage, that they are almost put in execution before the actors can get behind the scenes.

I would not have it thought, that there is just ground for those consequences which our enemies draw against us from these practices; but methinks one would be sorry for any manner of occasion for such misrepresentations of us. The virtues of ten-

ness, compassion, and humanity, are those by uch men are distinguished from brutes, as much by reason itself; and it would be the greatest reroach to a nation, to distinguish itself from all thers by any defect in these particular virtues. For hich reasons, I hope that my dear countrymen no longer expose themselves by an effusion of ood, whether it be of theatrical heroes, cocks, or ny other innocent animals, which we are not bliged to slaughter for our safety, convenience, or ourishment. When any of these ends are not rved in the destruction of a living creature, I cant but pronounce it a great piece of cruelty, if not kind of murder.

[o 135. SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 1709-10.

ıod in hoc erro, quòd animos hominum immortales esse credam, libenter erro; nec mihi hunc errorem, quo delector, dum vivo, extorqueri volo: sin mortuus, ut quidam minuti philosophi censent, nihil sentiam; non vereor, ne hunç errorem meum mortui *philosophi irrideant.* CICERO, De Senect. cap. ult. Ed. Verburgil. Vol. X. p. 3758.

But if I err in believing that the souls of men are immortal, I willingly err; nor while I live would I wish to have this delightful error extorted from me: and if after death I shall feel nothing, as some minute philosophers think, I am not afraid lest *dead philosophers* should laugh at me for the error."

Sheer-lane, January 17.

VERAL letters, which I have lately received, give e information, that some well-disposed persons ve taken offence at my using the word *Free-*

thinker as a term of reproach. To
this matter in a clear light, I must dec
one can have a greater veneration than mys
Free-thinkers of antiquity; who acted the
in those times, as the great men of the Rero
did in several nations of Europe, by exerting
selves against the idolatry and superi
times in which they lived. It was by this noble
pulse that Socrates and his disciples, as well a
the philosophers of note in Greece, and Cicero,
neca, with all the learned men of Rome, endeav
to enlighten their contemporaries ami the
and ignorance in which the world w
buried.

The great points, which these Free-thinkers endeavoured to establish and inculcate into the minds of men, were the formation of the universe, the superintendency of Providence, the perfection of Divine Nature, the immortality of the soul, a future state of rewards and punishments. T complied with the religion of their country, as m as possible, in such particulars as did not cont and pervert these great and fundamental doctri mankind. On the contrary, the persons who set up for Free-thinkers, are such as endeavc , by a little trash of words and sophistry, to weaken and destroy those very principles, for the vindication of which, freedom of thought at first became laudable and heroic. These apostates from reason and good sense can look at the glorious frame of nature, without paying an adoration to Him that raised it; can consider the great revolutions in the universe, without lifting up their minds to that superior Power which hath the direction of it; can presume to censure the Deity in his ways towards men; can level mankind with the beasts that perish; can extinguish in their own minds all the pleasing hopes of a

uture state, and lull themselves into a stupid se-curity against the terrors of it. If one were to take he word *priestcraft* out of the mouths of these shal-ow monsters, they would be immediately struck lumb. It is by the help of this single term that they ndeavour to disappoint the good works of the most earned and venerable order of men, and harden the earts of the ignorant against the very light of na-ure, and the common received notions of mankind. We ought not to treat such miscreants as these pon the foot of fair disputants; but to pour out ontempt upon them, and speak of them with scorn nd infamy, as the pests of society, the revilers of uman nature, and the blasphemers of a Being, whom a good man would rather die than hear dis-noured. Cicero, after having mentioned the great heroes of knowledge that recommended this divine doctrine of the immortality of the soul, calls hose small pretenders to wisdom, who declared against it, certain *minute philosophers*, using a di-minutive even of the word *little*, to express the despicable opinion he had of them. The contempt he throws upon them in another passage, is yet more remarkable; where, to show the mean thoughts he entertains of them, he declares "he would rather be in the wrong with Plato, than in the right with such company." There is indeed no-thing in the world so ridiculous as one of these grave philosophical Free-thinkers, that hath neither pas-sions nor appetites to gratify, no heats of blood, nor vigour of constitution, that can turn his systems of infidelity to his advantage, or raise pleasures out of them which are inconsistent with the belief of an hereafter. One that has neither wit, gallantry, mirth, or youth, to indulge by these notions, but only a poor, joyless, uncomfortable vanity of dis-tinguishing himself from the rest of mankind, is ra-

ther to be regarded as a mischievous lunatic, than a mistaken philosopher. A chaste infidel, a speculative libertine, is an animal that I should not believe to be in nature, did I not sometimes meet with this species of men, that plead for the indulgence of their passions in the midst of a severe studious life, and talk against the immortality of the soul over a dish of coffee.

I would fain ask a minute philosopher, w l he proposes to mankind by the publish or m doctrines? Will they make a man a bett or father of a family; a more endearing l friend, or son? Will they enlarge his public vate virtues, or correct any of his frailties or vi What is there either joyful or glorious in su nions? do they either refresh or en o thoughts? do they contribute to the hap raise the dignity, of human nature? The only that I have ever heard pretended to, is, th banish terrors, and set the mind at ease. But wh terrors do they banish? It is certain, if there any strength in their arguments, they wo l great disturbance to minds that are influ by virtue, honour, and morality, and take fr only comforts and supports of affliction, sp and old age. The minds, therefore, which t at ease, are only those of impenitent crimi malefactors, and which, *to* the good of s should be in perpetual terror and alarm.

I must confess, nothing is more usual than for a free-thinker, in proportion as the insolence of scepticism is abated in him by years and knowledge, or humbled and beaten down by sorrow or sickness, to reconcile himself to the general conceptions of reasonable creatures; so that we frequently see the apostates turning from their revolt towards the end of their lives, and employing the refuse of their

parts in promoting those truths which they had before endeavoured to invalidate.

The history of a gentleman in France is very well known, who was so zealous a promoter of infidelity, that he had got together a select company of disciples, and travelled into all parts of the kingdom to make converts. In the midst of his fantastical success he fell sick, and was reclaimed to such a sense of his condition, that after he had passed some time in great agonies and horrors of mind, he begged those who had the care of burying him, to dress his body in the habit of a capuchin, that the devil might not run away with it; and, to do further justice upon himself, desired them to tie an halter about his neck, as a mark of that ignominious punishment, which, in his own thoughts, he had so justly deserved.

I would not have persecution so far disgraced, as to wish these vermin might be animadverted on by any legal penalties; though I think it would be highly reasonable, that those few of them who die in the professions of their infidelity, should have such tokens of infamy fixed upon them, as might distinguish those bodies which are given up by the owners to oblivion and putrefaction, from those which rest in hope, and shall rise in glory. But at the same time that I am against doing them the honour of the notice of our laws, which ought not to suppose there are such criminals in being, I have often wondered, how they can be tolerated in any mixed conversations, while they are venting these absurd opinions; and should think, that if, on any such occasions, half a dozen of the most robust Christians in the company would lead one of these gentlemen to a pump, or convey him into a blanket, they would do very good service both to church and state. I do not know how the laws stand in this

particular; but I hope, whatever knocks, thumps, might be given with such an intention, would not be construed as a breach of the peace. I dare say they would not be the person who receives them; for whatever fools may say in the vanity of their hearts, they are too wise to risk their lives upon the uncertainty of their opinions.

When I was a young man about this town, I frequented the ordinary of the *Black-horse* in Holborn, where the person that usually presided at the table was a rough old-fashioned gentleman, who, according to the customs of those times, had been the Major and Preacher of a regiment. It happened one day that a noisy young officer, bred in France, was venting some new-fangled notions, and speaking, in the gaiety of his humour, against the dispensations of Providence. The Major, at first, only desired him to talk more respectfully of one for whom all the company had an honour; but finding him run on in his extravagance, began to reprimand him after a more serious manner. "Young man," said he, "do not abuse your Benefactor whilst you are eating his bread. Consider whose air you breathe, whose presence you are in, and who it is that gave you the power of that very speech, which you make use of to his dishonour." The young fellow, who thought to turn matters into a jest, asked him, "if he was going to preach?" but at the same time desired him "to take care what he said when he spoke to a man of honour." "A man of honour!" says the Major; "thou art an infidel and a blasphemer, and I shall use thee as such." In short, the quarrel ran so high, that the Major was desired to walk out. Upon their coming into *the garden*, the old fellow advised his antagonist to consider the place into which one pass might drive

iim; but, finding him grow upon him to a degree scurrility, as believing the advice proceeded from ear; "Sirrah," says he, "if a thunderbolt does ıot strike thee dead before I come at thee, I shall ıot fail to chastise thee for thy profaneness to thy ker, and thy sauciness to his servant." Upon nis he drew his sword, and cried out with a loud oice, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!" hich so terrified his antagonist, that he was imately disarmed, and thrown upon his knees. a this posture he begged his life; but the Major efused to grant it, before he had asked pardon for is offence in a short extemporary prayer, which the ld gentleman dictated to him upon the spot, and hich his proselyte repeated after him in the preence of the whole ordinary, that were now gaıered about him in the garden.

N° 136. TUESDAY, FEB. 21, 1709-10.

Deprendi miserum est: Fabio vel judice vincam.
HOR. 1. Sat. II. ver. ult.

To be surpris'd, is, sure a wretched tale,
And for the truth to Fabius I appeal. FRANCIS.

White's Chocolate-house, February 18.

The History of Tom Varnish.

CAUSE I have a professed aversion to long beings of stories, I will go into this at once, by ming you, that there dwells near the Royal Exge as happy a couple as ever entered into wed-

lock. These live in that mutual confi of other, which renders the satisfactions o even greater than those of friendship, an wife and husband the dearest appellations of life. Mr. Balance is a merchant of goo sideration, and understands the world, not culation, but practice. His wife is the dau an honest house, ever bred in a family-way; has, from a natural good understanding, innocence, a freedom which men of sense be the certain sign of virtue, and fools an encouragement to vice.

Tom Varnish, a young gentleman of the Middle-Temple, by the bounty of a good father, who was so obliging as to die, and leave him, in his twenty-fourth year, besides a good estate, a large sum which lay in the hands of Mr. Balance, had by *this means* an intimacy at his house; and being one of those hard students who read plays for the improvement in the law, took his rules of life from thence. Upon mature deliberation, he conceived it very proper, that he, as a man of wit and pleasure of the town, should have an intrigue with *his merchant's* wife. He no sooner thought of this adventure, but he began it by an amorous epistle to the lady, and a faithful promise to wait upon her at a certain hour the next evening, when he knew her husband was to be absent.

The letter was no sooner received, but it was communicated to the husband, and produced no other effect in him, than that he joined with his wife to raise all the mirth they could out of this fantastical piece of gallantry. They were so little concerned at this dangerous man of mode, that they plotted ways to perplex him without hurting him. Varnish comes exactly at this hour; and the lady's well-acted confusion at his entrance gave him op-

portunity to repeat some couplets very fit for the occasion with very much grace and spirit. His theatrical manner of making love was interrupted by an alarm of the husband's coming; and the wife, in a personated terror, beseeched him, "if he had any value for the honour of a woman that loved him, he would jump out of the window." He did so, and fell upon feather-beds placed on purpose to receive him.

It is not to be conceived how great the joy of an amorous man is, when he has suffered for his mistress, and is never the worse for it. Varnish the next day writ a most elegant billet, wherein he said all that imagination could form upon the occasion. He violently protested, "going out of the window was no way terrible, but as it was going from her;" with several other kind expressions, which procured him a second assignation. Upon his second visit, he was conveyed by a faithful maid into her bed-chamber, and left there to expect the arrival of her mistress. But the wench, according to her instructions, ran in again to him, and locked the door after her to keep out her master. She had just time enough to convey the lover into a chest before she admitted the husband and his wife into the room.

You may be sure that trunk was absolutely necessary to be opened; but upon her husband's ordering it, she assured him, "she had taken all the care imaginable in packing up the things with her own hands, and he might send the trunk abroad as soon as he thought fit." The easy husband believed his wife, and the good couple went to bed; Varnish having the happiness to pass the night in his mistress's bed-chamber without molestation. The morning arose, but our lover was not well situated to observe her blushes; so that all we know of his sentiments on this occasion is, that he heard Balance

ask for the key, and say, " he would l
with this chest, and have it opened before
tain of the ship, for the greater safety of so v
a lading."

The goods were hoisted away; and Mr.
marching by his chest with great care and on
omitted nothing that might give his pa
plexity. But, to consummate all, he den
chest, with strict charge, in case they were in
ger of being taken, to throw it overboard, for
were letters in it, the matter of which might be
great service to the enemy."

N. B. It is not thought adviseable to proceed further in this account; Mr. Varnish being just returned from his travels, and willing to conceal the occasion of his first applying himself to the languages.

St. James's Coffee-house, February 20.

This day came in a mail from Holland, with a confirmation of our late advices, that a treaty of peace would very suddenly be set on foot, and that yachts were appointed by the States to convey the ministers of France from Moerdyke to Gertruydenburgh, which is appointed for the place wherein this important negociation is to be transacted. It is said, this affair has been in agitation ever since the close of the last campaign; Mons. Pettecum having been appointed to receive from time to time the overtures of the enemy. During the whole winter, the ministers of France have used their utmost skill in forming such answers as might amuse the Allies, in hopes of a favourable event, either in the North, or some other part of Europe, which might affect some part of the alliance too nearly to leave it in a capacity of adhering firmly to the interest of the whole. In all this transaction, the French king's

own name has been as little made use of as possible: but the season of the year advancing too fast to admit of much longer delays in the present condition of France, Mons. Torcy, in the name of the king, sent a letter to Mons. Pettecum, wherein he says, "That the king is willing all the preliminary articles shall rest as they are during the treaty for the 37th."

Sheer-lane, February 20.

I have been earnestly solicited for a further term for wearing the *fardingal*, by several of the fair sex, but more especially by the following petitioners.

"The humble petition of DEBORAH HARK, SARAH THREADPAPER, and RACHAEL THIMBLE, spinsters, and single women, commonly called waiting-maids, in behalf of themselves and their sisterhood,

"Showeth,

"That your worship has been pleased to order and command, that no person or persons shall presume to wear quilted petticoats on forfeiture of the said petticoats, or penalty of wearing ruffs, after the seventeenth instant now expired.

"That your petitioners have, time out of mind, been entitled to wear their ladies cloaths, or to sell the same.

"That the sale of the said cloaths is spoiled by your worship's said prohibition.

"Your petitioners therefore most humbly pray, that your worship will please to allow, that all gentlewomen's gentlewomen may be allowed to wear the said dress, or to repair the loss of such a perquisite in such manner as your worship shall think fit.

And your petitioners, &c."

I do allow the allegations of this just; and forbid all persons, but the [illegible] those who shall purchase them, to wear garment after the date hereof.

N° 137. THURSDAY, FEB. 23, 1709-10.

Ter centum tonat ore Deos, Erebúmque, Chaósque,
Tergemínámque Hecaten———

VIRG. Æn. IV. 510.

He thrice invokes th' infernal powers profound
Of Erebus and Chaos; thrice he calls
On Hecate's triple form———

R. WYNNE.

Sheer-lane, February 22.

Dick Reptile and I sat this evening later than the rest of the club; and as some men are better company when only with one friend, others when there is a larger number, I found Dick to be of the former kind. He was bewailing to me, in very just terms, the offences which he frequently met with in the abuse of speech; some use ten times more words than they need; some put in words quite foreign to their purpose; and others adorn their discourses with oaths and blasphemies, by way of tropes and figures. What my good friend started dwelt upon me after I came home this evening, and led me into an inquiry with myself, Whence should arise such strange excrescences in discourse? where-

as it must be obvious to all reasonable beings, that the sooner a man speaks his mind, the more complaisant he is to the man with whom he talks: but, upon mature deliberation, I am come to this resolution, that for one man who speaks to be understood, there are ten who talk only to be admired.

The ancient Greeks had little independent syllables called expletives, which they brought into their discourses both in verse and prose, for no other purpose but for the better grace and sound of their sentences and periods. I know no example but this, which can authorise the use of more words than are necessary. But whether it be from this freedom taken by that wise nation, or however it arises, Dick Reptile hit upon a very just and common cause of offence in the generality of people of all orders. We have one here in our lane, who speaks nothing without quoting an authority; for it is always with him, so and so, "as the man said." He asked me this morning, how I did, "as the man said?" and hoped I would come now and then to see him, "as the man said." I am acquainted with another, who never delivers himself upon any subject, but he cries, "he only speaks his poor judgement; this is his humble opinion; as for his part, if he might presume to offer any thing on that subject."—But of all the persons who add elegances and superfluities to their discourses, those who deserve the foremost rank are the swearers; and the lump of these may, I think, be very aptly divided into the common distinction of *High* and *Low*. Dulness and barrenness of thought is the original of it in both these *sects*, and they differ only in constitution: The *Low* is generally a phlegmatic, and the *High* a choleric coxcomb. The man of phlegm is sensible of the emptiness of his discourse, and will tell you, that, "I'fackins," such a thing

is true: or if you warm him a little, into passion, and cry, "Odsbodikins, y say right." But the *High* affects a subli ness, and invokes "hell and damnat breaking of a glass, or the slowness of a

I was the other day trudging along Fleet- foot, and an old army-friend came up We were both going towards W finding the streets were so crowded we not keep together, we resolved to club for a This gentleman I knew to be the first of of the choleric. I must confess, were crime in it, nothing could be more diver the impertinence of the *High* juror: for there is remedy or not against what still he is to show he is offended; and be sure, not omit to be magnificently passion falling on all things in his way. We were by a train of coaches at Temple-bar. "W devil!" says my companion, "cannot you drive coachman? D——n you all, for a set of whores; you will stop here to be paid by There is not such a set of confounded d coachmen, unhanged! But these rascally 'Ounds, why should not there be a tax to these dogs widen their gates? Oh! but t hounds move at last." "Ay," said I, "a you would make them whip on, if once they you."——"No," says he, "but would it not pro a man to the devil, to pay for being carried slower than he can walk? Look'ye! there is for ever a stop at this hole by St. Clement's church. Blood, you dog! Hark'ye, sirrah!——Why, and be d——d to you, do not you drive over that fellow?——Thunder, furies, and damnation! I will cut your ears off, you fellow before there——Come hither, you dog you, and let me wring your neck round your

oulders." We had a repetition of the same eloquence at the Cockpit, and the turning into Palace-yard.

This gave me a perfect image of the insignificancy of the creatures who practise this enormity; and made me conclude, that it is ever want of sense makes a man guilty in this *kind*. It was excellently well said, "That this folly had no temptation to excuse it, no man being born of a swearing constitution." In a word, a few rumbling words and consonants clapped together without any sense, will make an accomplished swearer. It is needless to dwell long upon this blustering impertinence, which is already banished out of the society of well-bred men, and can be useful only to bullies and *ill* tragic writers, who would have sound and noise pass for courage and sense.

St. James's Coffee-house, February 22.

There arrived a messenger last night from Harwich, who left that place just as the duke of Marlborough was going on board. The character of this important general going out by the command of his queen, and at the request of his country, puts me in mind of that noble figure which Shakspeare gives Harry the Fifth upon his expedition against France. The poet wishes for abilities to represent so great an hero:

> Oh for a Muse of fire!
> Then should the warlike Harry, like himself,
> Assume the port of Mars, and at his heel,
> Leash'd in, like hounds, should famine, sword, and fire,
> Crouch for employments.

A conqueror drawn like the god of battle, with such a dreadful leash of hell-hounds at his com-

mand, makes a picture of as much majesty terror, as is to be met with in any poet.

Shakspeare understood the force of this particular allegory so well, that he had it in his thoughts in another passage, which is altogether as daring and sublime as the former. What I mean is in the tragedy of Julius Cæsar, where Antony, after having foretold the bloodshed and destruction that should be brought upon the earth by the death of that great man, to fill up the horror of his description, adds the following verses:

> And Cæsar's spirit, ranging for revenge,
> With Ate by his side, come hot from Hell,
> Shall in these confines, with a monarch's voice,
> Cry havoc; and let slip the dogs of war.

I do not question but these quotations will call to mind, in my readers of learning and taste, that imaginary person described by Virgil with the same spirit. He mentions it upon the occasion of a peace which was restored to the Roman empire; and which we may now hope for from the departure of that great man, who has given occasion to these reflexions. The temple of Janus, says he, shall be shut, and in the midst of it *military* Fury shall sit upon a pile of broken arms, loaded with an hundred chains, bellowing with madness, and grinding his teeth in blood.

> *Claudentur belli portæ, Furor impius intus*
> *Sæva sedens super arma, et centum vinctus ahenis*
> *Post tergum nodis, fremit horridus ore cruento.*
> VIRG. Æn. I. 296.

> Janus himself before his fane shall wait,
> And keep the dreadful issues of his gate,
> With bolts and iron bars. Within remains
> Imprison'd Fury bound in brazen chains;
> High on the trophy rais'd of useless arms,
> He sits, and threats the world with vain alarms.
> DRYDEN.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The tickets which were delivered out for the benefit of Signior Nicolini Grimaldi on the twenty-fourth instant, will be taken on Thursday the second of March, his benefit being deferred until that day.

N. B. In all operas for the future, where it thunders and lightens in proper time and in tune, the matter of the said lightning is to be of the finest rosin; and for the sake of harmony, the same which is used to the best Cremona fiddles.

Note also, that the true perfumed lightning is only prepared and sold by Mr. Charles Lillie, at the corner of Beaufort-buildings.

The lady who has chosen Mr. Bickerstaff for her Valentine, and is at a loss what to present him with, is desired to make him, with her own hands, a warm night-cap.

N° 138. SATURDAY, FEB. 25, 1709-10.

Secretosque pios, his dantem jura Catonem.
VIRG. ÆN. VIII. 670.

Apart from these, the happy souls he draws,
And Cato's pious ghost dispensing laws.
DRYDEN.

Sheer-lane, February 24.

It is an argument of a clear and worthy spirit in a man to be able to disengage himself from the opinions of others, so far as not to let the deference

due to the sense of mankind ensnare him to act against the dictates of his own reason. But the generality of the world are so far from walking by any such maxim, that it is almost a standing rule to do as others do, or be ridiculous. I have heard my old friend Mr. Hart speak it as an observation among the players, "that it is impossible to act with grace, except the actor has forgot that he is before an audience." Until he is arrived at that, his motion, his air, his every step and gesture, has something in them which discovers he is under a restraint, for fear of being ill received; or if he considers himself as in the presence of those who approve his behaviour, you see an affectation of that pleasure run through his whole carriage. It is as common in life, as upon the stage, to behold a man in the most indifferent action betray a sense he has of doing what he is about gracefully. Some have such an immoderate relish for applause, that they expect it for things, which in themselves are so frivolous, that it is impossible, without this affectation, to make them appear worthy either of blame or praise. There is Will Glare, so passionately intent upon being admired, that when you see him in public places, every muscle of his face discovers his thoughts are fixed upon the consideration of what figure he makes. He will often fall into a musing posture, to attract observation; and is then obtruding himself upon the company, when he pretends to be withdrawn from it. Such little arts are the certain and infallible tokens of a superficial mind, as the avoiding observation is the sign of a great and sublime one. It is therefore extremely difficult for a man to judge even of his own actions, without forming to himself an idea of what he should act, were it in his power to execute all his desires without the observation of the rest of the

world. There is an allegorical fable in Plato, which seems to admonish us, that we are very little acquainted with ourselves, while we know our actions are to pass the censures of others; but, had we the power to accomplish all our wishes unobserved, we should then easily inform ourselves how far we are possessed of real and intrinsic virtue. The fable I was going to mention is that of Gyges, who is said to have had an enchanted ring, which had in it a miraculous quality, making him who wore it visible or invisible, as he turned it to or from his body. The use Gyges made of his occasional invisibility was, by the advantage of it, to violate a queen, and murder a king. Tully takes notice of this allegory, and says very handsomely, "that a man of honour who had such a ring would act just in the same manner as he would without it." It is indeed no small pitch of virtue, under the temptation of impunity, and the hopes of accomplishing all a man desires, not to transgress the rules of justice and virtue; but this is rather not being an ill man, than being positively a good one; and it seems wonderful, that so great a soul as that of Tully should not form to himself a thousand worthy actions, which a virtuous mind would be prompted to by the possession of such a secret. There are certainly some part of mankind who are guardian beings to the other. Sallust could say of Cato, "That he had rather be, than appear good;" but, indeed, this eulogium rose no higher than, as I just now hinted, to an inoffensiveness, rather than an active virtue. Had it occurred to the noble orator to represent, in his language, the glorious pleasures of a man secretly employed in beneficence and generosity, it would certainly have made a more charming page than any he has left behind him. How might a man, furnished with Gyges's secret, employ it in bringing together distant

friends; laying snares for creating good-
the room of groundless hatred; in removing
pangs of an unjust jealousy, the shyness
imperfect reconciliation, and the
awful love! Such a one could give
bashful merit, and confusion to over-
pudence.

Certain it is, that secret kindnesses done to
kind are as beautiful, as secret injur
testable. To be invisibly good, is as
be invisibly ill, diabolical. As de
are apt to say the age we live in is,
amongst us men of illustrious minds, who
the pleasures of good actions, except that of
commended for them. There happens, am
very worthy instances of a public spirit, of
I am obliged to discover, because I know not
wise how to obey the commands of the ben
A citizen of London has given directions to
Rayner, the writing-master of St. Paul's-sc
educate at his charge ten boys, who shall
nated by me, in writing and accompts,
shall be fit for any trade; I desire therefore
as know any proper objects for receiving this
to give notice thereof to Mr. Morphew,
Lillie; and they shall, if properly qual
instructions accordingly.

Actions of this kind have in them something so transcendent, that it is an injury to applaud them, and a diminution of that merit which consists in shunning our approbation. We shall therefore leave them to enjoy that glorious obscurity; and silently admire their virtue, who can contemn the most delicious of human pleasures, that of receiving due praise. Such celestial dispositions very justly suspend the discovery of their benefactions, until they come where their actions cannot be misinterpreted,

I must not omit at the same time to look into their errors and mistakes, that being the readiest way to the intended end of adorning and instructing them. It must be acknowledged, that the very inadvertences of this sex are owing to the other; for if men were not flatterers, women could not fall into that general cause of all their follies, and our misfortunes, their love of flattery. Were the commendation of these agreeable creatures built upon its proper foundation, the higher we raised their opinion of themselves, the greater would be the advantage to our sex; but all the topic of praise is drawn from very senseless and extravagant ideas we pretend we have of their beauty and perfection. Thus, when a young man falls in love with a young woman, from that moment she is no more *Mrs. Alice* such-a-one, born of such a father, and educated by such a mother; but from the first minute that he casts his eye upon her with desire, he conceives a doubt in his mind, what heavenly power gave so unexpected a blow to an heart that was ever before untouched. But who can resist fate and destiny, which are lodged in *Mrs. Alice's* eyes; after which he desires orders accordingly, whether he is to live or die; the smile or frown of his goddess is the only thing that can now either save or destroy him. By this means, the well-humoured girl, that would have romped with him before she had received this declaration, assumes a state suitable to the majesty he has given her, and treats him as the vassal he calls himself. The girl's head is immediately turned by having the power of life and death, and takes care to suit every motion and air to her new sovereignty. After he has placed himself at this distance, he must never hope to recover his former familiarity, until she has had the addresses of another, and found them less sincere.

If the application to women were
the address of flattery, though it imp
time an admonition, would be much
succeed. Should a captivated lover,
his mistress know, that her piety to her
gentleness of behaviour, her prudent
respect to her own little affairs in a vir
had improved the passion which
spired him with, into so settled
that of all women breathing he
though his commending her for qua
she had as a virgin, would make her
pected from her an answerable conduct
racter of a matron; I will answer for it,
would be carried on with less perplexity.

Instead of this, the generality of our y
men, taking all their notions of life from ga
ings, or letters of love, consider themselves
desses, nymphs, and shepherdesses.

By this romantic sense of things, all
relations and duties of life are forgotten;
male part of mankind are bred and treated, as
were designed to inhabit the happy fields of
rather than be wives and mothers in Old
It is, indeed, long since I had the ha
verse familiarly with this sex, and
been fearful of falling into the error
men are very subject to, that of giving
sentations of the world, from which they
tired, by imaginary schemes drawn from their
reflexions. An old man cannot easily
tance into the dressing-room of ladies;
thought it time well-spent, to turn over
and use all my Occult Art, to give my *old C*
ring the same force with that of Gy
have lately spoken of. By the help o
unobserved to a friend's house of mi

fashion, and baubles to perfection. He is
ly well versed in screws, springs, and
and deeply read in knives, combs, or scis-
ttons, or buckles. He is a perfect master
, which, uttered with a smooth voluble
low into a most persuasive eloquence; in-
that I have known a gentleman of dis-
find several ingenious faults with a toy of
l show his utmost dislike to it, as being ei-
less or ill-contrived; but when the orator,
he counter, had harangued upon it for an
d a half, displayed its hidden beauties, and
l its secret perfections, he has wondered how
been able to spend so great a part of his life
so important an utensil. I will not pretend
sh out an inventory of all the valuable com-
s that are to be found at his shop.
hall content myself with giving an account
I think most curious. *Imprimis*, his pocket-
re very neat, and well contrived, not for
; bank-bills, or *goldsmiths' notes*, I confess;
y are admirable for registering the lodg-
Madonas, and for preserving letters from
f quality. His whips and spurs are so nice,
y will make one that buys them ride a fox-
, though before he hated noise and early
and was afraid of breaking his neck. His
e curiously fancied, and exquisitely well cut,
great use to encourage young gentlemen to
good hand. Ned Puzzle-post has been ill
y his writing-master, and writ a sort of a
, or downright *scrawlian:* however, upon
ing a seal of my friend, he is so much im-
by continual writing, that it is believed in a
me one may be able to read his letters, and
t his meaning, without guessing. His pistols
ees are so very good, that they are fit to be

laid up among the finest china. Then his tweezer-cases are incomparable: you shall have one not much bigger than your finger, with seventeen several instruments in it, all necessary every hour of the day, during the whole course of a man's life. But if this Virtuoso excels in one thing more than another, it is in canes. He has spent his most select hours in the knowledge of them; and is arrived at that perfection, that he is able to hold forth upon canes longer than upon any one subject in the world. Indeed, his canes are so finely clouded, and so well made up, either with gold or amber heads, that I am of the opinion it is impossible for a gentleman to walk, talk, sit, or stand, as he should do, without one of them. He knows the value of a cane, by knowing the value of the buyer's estate. Sir Timothy Shallow has two thousand pounds *per annum*, and Tom Empty one. They both at several times bought a cane of Charles; Sir Timothy's cost ten guineas, and Tom Empty's five. Upon comparing them, they were perfectly alike. Sir Timothy, surprised there should be no difference in the canes, and so much in the price, comes to Charles: 'Damn it, Charles,' says he, 'you have sold me a cane here for ten pieces, and the very same to Tom Empty for five.' 'Lord! Sir Timothy,' says Charles, 'I am concerned that you, whom I took to understand canes better than any baronet in town, should be so overseen! Why, Sir Timothy, your's is a true *Jambee*, and Esquire Empty's only a plain *Dragon*.'

"This Virtuoso has a parcel of *Jambees* now growing in the East-Indies, where he keeps a man on purpose to look after them, which will be the finest that ever landed in Great-Britain, and will be fit to cut about two years hence. Any gentleman may subscribe for as many as he pleases. Sub-

scriptions will be taken in at his shop at ten guineas each joint. They that subscribe for six shall have a Dragon *gratis*. This is all I have to say at present concerning Charles's curiosities; and hope it may be sufficient to prevail with you to take him into your consideration, which if you comply with, you will oblige

" Your humble servant.

" N. B. Whereas there came out, last Term, several gold snuff-boxes, and others: this is to give notice that Charles will put out a new edition on Saturday next, which will be the only one in fashion until after Easter. The gentleman that gave fifty pounds for the box set with diamonds, may show it until Sunday night, provided he goes to church; but not after that time, there being one to be published on Monday, which will cost fourscore guineas."

№ 143. THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1709-10.

Sheer-lane, March 8.

I was this afternoon surprised with a visit from my sister Jenny, after an absence of some time. She had, methought, in her manner and air, something that was a little below that of women of the first breeding and quality, but at the same time above the simplicity and familiarity of her usual deportment. As soon as she was seated, she began to talk to me of the odd place I lived in, and begged of me to re-

move out of the lane where I have been so long acquainted; "for," said she, "it does so spoil one's horses, that I must beg your pardon if you see me much seldomer, when I am to make so great a journey with a single pair, and make visits, and get home the same night." I understood her pretty well, but would not; therefore desired her, "to pay off her coach, for I had a great deal to talk to her." She very pertly told me, "she came in her own chariot." "Why," said I, "is your husband in town? and has he set up an equipage?" "No," answered she, "but I have received five hundred pounds by his order; and his letters which came at the same time, bad me want for nothing that was necessary."

I was heartily concerned at her folly, whose affairs render her but just able to bear such an expence. However, I considered, that, according to the British custom of treating women, there is no other method to be used, in removing any of their faults and errors, but conducting their minds from one humour to another, with as much ceremony as we lead their persons from one place to another. I therefore dissembled my concern; and in compliance with her, as a lady that was to use her feet no more, I begged of her, after a short visit, "to let me persuade her not to stay out until it was late, for fear of catching cold as she went into her coach in the dampness of the evening." The malapert knew well enough I laughed at her; but was not ill pleased with the certainty of her power over her husband, who, she knew, would support her in any humour he was able, rather than pass through the torment of an expostulation to gainsay any thing she had a mind to.

As soon as my fine lady was gone, I writ the following letter to my brother:

"DEAR BROTHER,

"I am at present under very much concern, at the splendid appearance I saw my sister make in an equipage, which she has set up in your absence. I beg of you not to indulge her in this vanity; and desire you to consider, the world is so whimsical, that though it will value you for being happy, it will hate you for appearing so. The possession of wisdom and virtue, the only solid distinctions of life, is allowed much more easily than that of wealth and quality. Besides which, I must intreat you to weigh with yourself, what it is that people aim at in setting themselves out to show in gay equipages and moderate fortunes? You are not by this means a better man than your neighbour is; but your horses are better than his are. And will you suffer care and inquietude, to have it said, as you pass by, 'Those are very pretty *punch nags?*' Nay, when you have arrived at this, there are a hundred worthless fellows who are still four horses happier than you are. Remember, dear brother, there is a certain modesty in the enjoyment of moderate wealth, which to transgress exposes men to the utmost derision; and as there is nothing but meanness of spirit can move a man to value himself upon what can be purchased with money, so he that shows an ambition that way, and cannot arrive at it, is more emphatically guilty of that meanness. I give you only my first thoughts on this occasion; but shall, as I am a Censor, entertain you in my next with my sentiments in general upon the subject of equipage; and show, that though there are no sumptuary laws amongst us, reason and good sense are equally binding, and will ever prevail in appointing approbation or dislike in all matters of an indifferent nature, when they are pursued with earnestness.

I am, Sir, &c."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

To all Gentlemen, Ladies, and others, that delight in soft lines.

These are to give notice, that the proper time of the year for writing Pastorals now drawing near, there is a stage-coach settled from the One-bell in the Strand to Dorchester, which sets out twice a week, and passes through Basingstoke, Sutton, Stockbridge, Salisbury, Blandford, and so to Dorchester, over the finest downs in England. At all which places, there are accommodations of spreading beeches, beds of flowers, turf seats, and purling streams, for happy swains; and thunderstruck oaks, and left-handed ravens, to foretell misfortunes to those that please to be wretched, with all other necessaries for pensive passion.

And for the conveniency of such whose affairs will not permit them to leave this town, at the same place they may be furnished, during the season, with opening buds, flowering thyme, warbling birds, sporting lambkins, and fountain water, right and good, and bottled on the spot by one sent down on purpose.

N. B. The nymphs and swains are further given to understand, that, in those happy climes, they are so far from being troubled with wolves, that, for want of even foxes, a considerable pack of hounds have been lately forced to eat sheep.

Whereas, on the sixth instant at midnight, several persons of light honour and loose mirth, having taken upon them in the shape of men but with the voice of the players belonging to Mr. Powell's company, to call up surgeons at midnight, and send physicians to persons in sound sleep and perfect health: this is to certify, that Mr. Powell

ıd locked up the legs of his company for fear of ischief that night; and that Mr. Powell will not ıy for any damages done by the said persons. It is so further advised, that there were no midwives anted when those persons called them up in the veral parts of Westminster; but that those gen-ewomen who were in the company of the said im-ɔstors, may take care to call such useful persons ı the 6th of December next.

The censor having observed, that there are ne-wrought ladies' shoes and slippers put out to ew at a great shoemaker's shop towards Saint ames's end of Pall-mall, which create irregular ıoughts and desires in the youth of this nation; ıe said shop-keeper is required to take in those ye-sores, or show cause the next court-day why e continues to expose the same; and he is re-ıired to be prepared particularly to answer to the ippers with *green lace and blue heels.*

It is impossible for me to return the obliging ings Mr. Joshua Barnes has said to me, upon the ɔcount of our mutual friend Homer. He and I ave read him now forty years with some under-anding, and great admiration. A work to be pro-uced by one who has enjoyed so great an intimacy ith an author, is certainly to be valued more than ny comment made by persons of yesterday. There-ore, according to my friend Joshua's request, I re-ommend his work; and, having used a little ıagic in the case, I give this recommendation by ay of "Amulet or charm against the malignity f envious backbiters, who speak evil of perform-nces whereof themselves were never capable." If may use my friend Joshua's own words, I shall at resent say no more, but that we, Homer's oldest cquaintance now living, know best his ways; and ın inform the world, that they are often mistaken

when they think he is in lethargic fits, which we know he was never subject to; and shall make appear to be rank scandal and envy, that of the Latin poet.

——*Aliquando bonus dormitat Homerus.*
HOR. ARS. POET. ver. 359.

——Good old Homer sometimes nods.

N° 144. SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1709-10.

Sheer-lane, March 10.

In a nation of liberty, there is hardly a person in the whole mass of the people more absolutely necessary than a Censor. It is allowed, that I have no authority for assuming this important appellation, and that I am Censor of these nations just as one is chosen king at the game of "Questions and Commands:" but if, in the execution of this fantastical dignity, I observe upon things which do not fall within the cognizance of real authority, I hope it will be granted, that an idle man could not be more usefully employed. Among all the irregularities of which I have taken notice, I know none so proper to be presented to the world by a Censor, as that of the general expence and affectation in Equipage. I have lately hinted, that this extravagance must necessarily get footing where we have no sumptuary laws, and where every man may be dressed, attended, and carried, in what manner he pleases.

But my tenderness to my fellow-subjects will not permit me to let this enormity go unobserved.

As the matter now stands, every man takes it in his head, that he has a liberty to spend his money as he pleases. Thus, in spite of all order, justice, and decorum, we, the greater number of the queen's loyal subjects, for no reason in the world but because we want money, do not share alike in the division of her majesty's high road. The horses and slaves of the rich take up the whole street; while we Peripatetics are very glad to watch an opportunity to whisk cross a passage, very thankful that we are not run over for interrupting the machine, that carries in it a person neither more handsome, wise, or valiant, than the meanest of us. For this reason, were I to propose a tax, it should certainly be upon coaches and chairs: for no man living can assign a reason, why one man should have half a street to carry him at his ease, and perhaps only in pursuit of pleasures, when as good a man as himself wants room for his own person to pass upon the most necessary and urgent occasion. Until such an acknowledgement is made to the public, I shall take upon me to vest certain rights in the scavengers of the cities of London and Westminster, to take the horses and servants of all such as do not become or deserve such distinctions, into their peculiar custody. The offenders themselves I shall allow safe conduct to their places of abode in the carts of the said scavengers, but their horses shall be mounted by their footmen, and sent into the service abroad: and I take this opportunity, in the first place, to recruit the regiment of my good old friend the brave and honest Sylvius, that they may be as well taught as they are fed. It is to me most miraculous, so unreasonable an usurpation, as this I am speaking of, should so long have been to-

lerated. We hang a poor fellow for taki
trifle from us on the road, and bear with
for robbing us of the road itself. Such a tax as
would be of great satisfaction to us who
foot; and since the distinction of riding in a
is not to be appointed according to a man's
service to his country, nor that liberty given
ward for some eminent virtue, we should be
contented to see them pay something for
they do us, in the state they take upon th
they *are drawn by* us.

Until they have made us some reparation of this kind, we the Peripatetics of Great-Britain cannot think ourselves well treated, while every one that is able, is allowed to set up an equipage.

As for my part, I cannot but admire how persons, conscious to themselves of no manner of superiority above others, can out of mere pride or laziness expose themselves at this rate to public view, and put us all upon pronouncing those three terrible syllables, "Who is that?" When it comes to that question, our method is, to consider the mien and air of the passenger, and comfort ourselves for being dirty to the ancles, by laughing at his figure and appearance who overlooks us. I must confess, were it not for the solid injustice of the thing, there is nothing could afford a discerning eye greater occasion for mirth, than this licentious huddle of qualities and characters in the equipages about this town. The overseers of the highways and constables have so little skill or power to rectify this matter, that you may often see the equipage of a fellow, whom all the town knows to deserve hanging, make a stop that shall interrupt the lord high chancellor and all the judges in their way to Westminster.

For the better understanding of things and persons this general confusion, I have given directions to l the coach-makers and coach-painters in town, to ing me in lists of their several customers; and ubt not, but with comparing the orders of each an, in the placing his arms on the door of his riot, as well as the words, devices, and cyphers ue fixed upon them, to make a collection which ll let us into the nature, if not the history, of ankind, more usefully than the curiosities of any edalist in Europe.

But this evil of vanity in our figure, with many hers, proceeds from a certain gaiety of heart, hich has crept into men's very thoughts and complexions. The passions and adventures of heroes, hen they enter the list for the tournament in romances, are not more easily distinguishable by their alfreys and their armour, than the secret springs nd affections of the several pretenders to show mongst us are known by their equipages in ordiary life. The young bridegroom with his gilded upids and winged Angels, has some excuse in the oy of his heart to launch out into something that ay be significant of his present happiness. But to ee men, for *no reason upon earth* but that they are ich, ascend triumphant chariots, and ride through he people, has *at the bottom* nothing else in it but n insolent transport, arising only from the disinction of fortune.

It is therefore high time that I call in such coaches s are in their embellishments improper for the chaacter of their owners. But if I find I am not beyed herein, and that I cannot pull down those quipages already erected, I shall take upon me to revent the growth of this evil for the future, by nquiring into the pretensions of the persons, who hall hereafter attempt to make public entries with

ornaments and decorations of their own
ment. If a man, who believed he had the
somest leg in this kingdom, should take a
adorn so deserving a limb with a blue
would justly be punished for offending
Most Noble Order; and, I think, the
stitution of equipage and retinue is as
all distinction, as the impertinence of one
permitted, would certainly be to that
fraternity.

ADVERTISEMENT.

*** The Censor having lately received
gence, that the ancient simplicity in the d
manners of that part of this island called Sc
begins to decay; and that there are at this ti
the good town of Edinburgh, Beaux, F
Coxcombs; his late correspondent from that
is desired to send up their names and cl
with all expedition, that they may be proce
against accordingly, and proper officers named
take in their canes, snuff-boxes, and all ot
less necessaries commonly worn by such o

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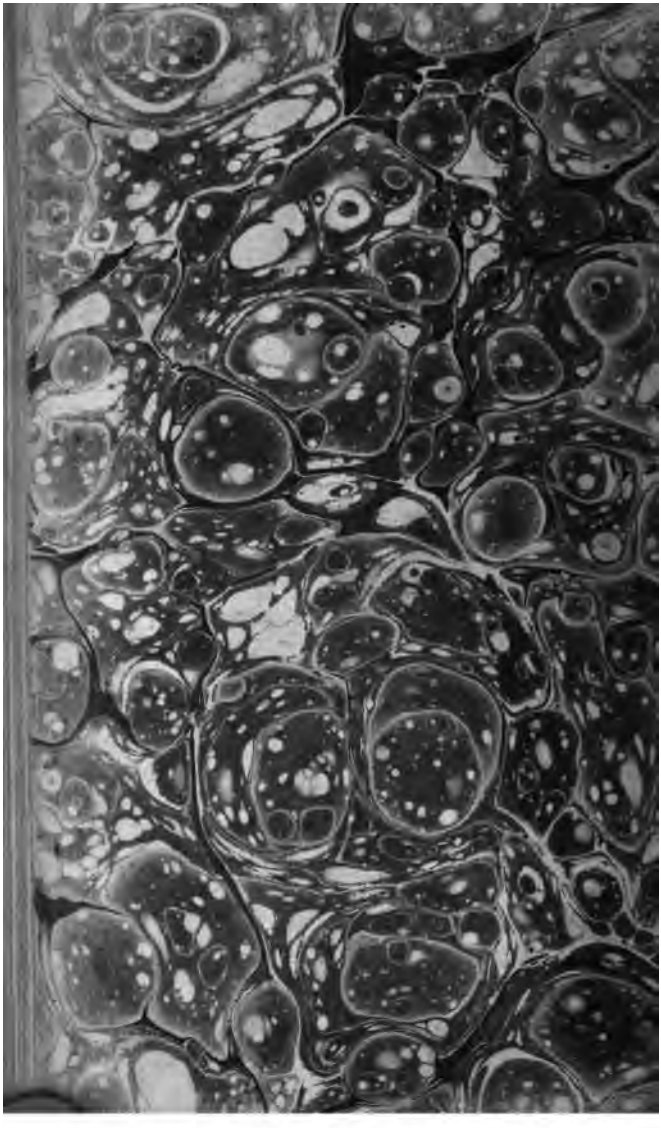

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